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GAZETTEER OF INDIA

HARYANA

MAHENDRAGARH

HARYANA DISTRICT GAZETTEERS



MAHENDRAGARH

77232

S. P. BHATIA, IAS,
STATE EDITOR
(Gazetteers)

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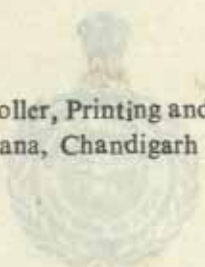
HARYANA GAZETTEERS ORGANISATION
REVENUE DEPARTMENT
CHANDIGARH (INDIA)

1988

HARYANA
DISTRICT OFFICERS
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STATE EDITOR
JEST RAM RANGA
STATE EDITOR



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HARYANA DISTRICT OFFICERS
CHANDIGARH (INDIA)

FOREWORD

A district gazetteer is a miniature encyclopaedia of the historical, geographical, social, economic and cultural features of a district. The present volume brings up-to-date the important facets of the development activities in Mahendragarh District to serve as a useful reference book.

During Mughal rule, Narnaul was a flourishing town. Nawab Shah Quli Khan, a Governor of Akbar, erected many splendid buildings at Narnaul, got dug many large tanks, laid out many beautiful gardens and built a fine mausoleum for himself. A descriptive account of important buildings constructed in the Pathan style at Narnaul during Mughal period has been given in the chapter on 'Places of Interest'. The other chapters in this compendium have been so devised as to make the gazetteer useful to those engaged in administration, welfare programmes and research work. The work, it is hoped, will also be of immense interest to the general reader.

KULWANT SINGH, I.A.S.

Chandigarh,
January 15, 1988

Financial Commissioner and Secretary
to Government, Haryana, Revenue
Department.

PREFACE

The present volume of the Mahendragarh District Gazetteer is the eighth in the series of the revised District Gazetteers of Haryana. Before Independence, the Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils of this district formed a part of former Princely State of Patiala. A brief account pertaining to the present district of Mahendragarh is available in the Phulkian States Gazetteer, 1904, published by the then Punjab Government and Imperial Gazetteer of India, (Provincial Series), 1908, originally drafted by Mr. H.A. Rose, I.C.S.

During the post-Independence period, many changes have taken place in social, economic and political conditions of the district. On socio-economic side, major changes have been brought about by the implementation of the Five-Year Plans. The introduction of sprinkler method of irrigation in this desertic area is the singular most significant transformation which has taken place in recent years. Hence, this gazetteer is not only a geographical and historical record but also tries to depict most of the major changes brought out by the development process in the district.

The preparation of a new gazetteer is a task involving many people and institutions; while it is not possible to acknowledge each of their contributions individually. I am grateful to all the institutions and persons who were primarily responsible for supplying the basic data/information to the Gazetteers Unit.

I am full of appreciation for the officers and staff of the State Gazetteers Unit for their hard work and zeal. Sarvshri Jeet Ram Ranga, Joint State Editor (Gazetteers); Padam Singh Ahlawat, Research Officer ; Rajender Kumar

(ii)

Malhotra, Superintendent and Shri Tej Bhan, Assistant handled the miscellaneous assignments very efficiently. Dr. H.A. Phadke and Dr. K.C. Yadav of Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra wrote ancient and medieval and modern sections of chapter on History respectively, and Dr. V.K. Sharma of the same University drafted the write-up on topography of the district.

Thanks are due to the Controller, Printing and Stationery Department, Haryana, Chandigarh and all their staff for extending full cooperation in the printing of this volume.

S. P. BHATIA, I.A.S.

**Chandigarh,
January 15, 1988.**

**State Editor (Gazetteers) and
Joint Secretary to Government,
Haryana, Revenue Department.**

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CHAPTER I

GENERAL

ORIGIN OF THE NAME OF THE DISTRICT

The Mahendragarh town was previously known as Kanaud which took its name from the Kanaudia group of Brahmans. It was founded by Malik Mahdud Khan, a servant of Babar. There is a fort at Mahendragarh which was built by Maratha Ruler, Tantia Tope during the 17th century. The above fort was named as Mahendragarh in 1861 by Narinder Singh, the then ruler of the erstwhile princely state of Patiala, in honour of his son, Mohinder Singh¹ and consequently the town came to be known as Mahendragarh. The name of Narnaul *Nizamat* was changed "to Mohindergarh *nizamat*"².

The Mahendragarh district was formed in 1948 by grouping different tracts of erstwhile princely states; Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils from Patiala State, Dadri (Charkhi Dadri) from Jind State and a part of Bawal *nizamat* from Nabha State. The headquarters of the district are at Narnaul. Mahendragarh, in fact, is the only district in the state which has its headquarters at a town different than the one from which the district takes its name.

LOCATION, BOUNDARIES, AREA AND POPULATION

Location and Boundaries.—The district lies between north latitude 27° 48' to 28° 28' and east longitude 75° 56' to 76° 52'. It is bounded on the north by Bhiwani and Rohtak districts, on the east by Gurgaon district and Alwar district of Rajasthan, on the south by Alwar, Jaipur and Sikar districts of Rajasthan, and on the west by Sikar and Jhunjhunu districts of Rajasthan.

Area.—The district has an area of 2,983 square kilometres. It comprises four tahsils covering the area given below :—

Tahsil	Area (Sq. kilometres)		
	Total	Urban	Rural
Narnaul	957.30	7.13	950.17
Mahendragarh	764.94	11.43	753.51
Rewari	1,013.36	6.06	1,007.30
Bawal	247.40	0.36	247.04

1. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series, Punjab* Vol. II, 1908, pp. 305-306.

2. Punjab State Archives, Record of Foreign Office, Patiala, F.H. II-B/1906 A.D. (22-10-1906).

Population.—The population of the district computed on the basis of the 1971 census, was 7,34,143. In population, it was the eighth among eleven districts of the State on March, 31, 1978. Tahsilwise population of the district was as follows :—

Narnaul	2,42,961
Mahendragarh	1,56,010
Rewari	2,77,863
Bawal	57,309
Total:	7,34,143

HISTORY OF THE DISTRICT AS AN ADMINISTRATIVE UNIT

The first mention of the administrative division of the tract now comprising Mahendragarh district is available in the reign of Iltutmish who divided his kingdom into several *iqtas* and the present Mahendragarh district was parcelled into two *iqtas*, namely Narnaul and Rewari. During Sher Shah's reign, the district was under the *sarkars* of Narnaul and Rewari. It was further sub-divided into *parganas* but no direct evidence is available to give the exact number of *parganas* into which the district was divided. It is, however, surmised that their number was six, namely, Rewari, Bawal, Pataudi (Gurgaon District), Narnaul, Kanaud and Kanti. Akbar divided his kingdom into *subahs*, *sarkars* and *mahals* or *parganas*, the district was in the *subahs* of Delhi and Agra and the *sarkar* of Rewari had principal *mahals* of Rewari and Bawal while *sarkar* of Narnaul consisted of principal *mahals* of Kanaud, Kanti, Khudana and Narnaul¹.

The administrative arrangement remained intact during Mughal rule but with the decline of Mughal empire the area remained disturbed in consequence of fighting between the neighbouring chiefs till it was taken over by the British in 1803. The British gifted Narnaul-Kanaud territory to Nawab of Jhajjar. He remained its (Mahendragarh & Narnaul tracts) ruler for about half a century, upto 1857 A.D., the year of the First War of Independence. These tracts, however, were confiscated, because the Nawab of Jhajjar, Abdul Rehman Khan, defied the authority of the British and took part in the uprising of 1857. Jhajjar, including, some areas of Narnaul Kanaud (present Mahendragarh) and Dadri was at first created as a new district but was abolished in 1860. The neighbouring princely states of Punjab helped the British with their resources and forces. Had these states not supported the British in their hotly contested battle, the results would have been different. The

1. Abul Fazl, *Ain-i-Akbari* Vol. II (Eng. Tr. by H.S. Garret, 1949, pp. 291-310).

British in their turn amply and liberally rewarded the loyal states. By the *sanad* of 4th January, 1861, the *pargana* of Kanaud (Mahendragarh), Budhwana and the *ilaqa* of Narnaul was gifted to Maharaja Narinder Singh of the Patiala State for taking side with the British during the war of 1857. Princely states of Nabha and Jind got respectively Bawal and Dadri (now a part of Bhiwani district).

In 1901, the *nizamat* of Mahendragarh which consisted of two tahsils, viz. Mahendragarh or Kanaud with 111 villages and Narnaul with 157 villages, had in all 268 villages¹. The position of the territories changed after 1947.

ADMINISTRATIVE HISTORY OF REWARI

In the time of Akbar (A.D. 1556—1605), the area of Rewari was a part of Delhi *subah*. The *sarkar* of Rewari had the *dasturs* : Bahora, Taoru, Rewari, Sohna and Lehna. The administrative arrangement remained intact during mughal rule but after the decline of Mughal empire, the area remained disturbed on account of fightings between neighbouring chiefs of princely states. On the collapse of the Mughal empire, Rewari fell first to the Marathas and afterwards to the ruler of Bharatpur. After taking the area from the chief of Bharatpur, the British in 1808-09 handed over fifty eight villages to Rao Tej Singh in *istamarar*.

In 1810, the whole of Delhi territory ceded by the Marathas was subject to the Resident of Delhi, and was divided into two districts. Delhi already under the Resident, and the outlying districts including Rewari, were under the immediate charge of an Assistant to the Resident. In 1819, the Delhi territory was divided into three districts : the central district which included Delhi, the southern which included Rewari; and the north-western had the areas of Panipat, Hansi, Sirsa and Rohtak.

On the outbreak of so called mutiny and cessation of all effective British authority, Rao Tula Ram proclaimed himself ruler of the *paraganas* of Rewari and Bahora with the headquarters at Rampura, 1.5 kilometres south-west of Rewari. Rao Tula Ram was defeated by the British and his estate was confiscated. The territory of Rewari was included into Gurgaon district which was attached to the Punjab in the beginning of 1858.

Rewari tahsil remained a part of Gurgaon district upto 1972. Prior to 1947, Bawal was a part of princely state of Nabha. After Independence, the areas of Bawal were merged with Gurgaon district.

In 1948, with the formation of Pepsu, Mahendragarh territory from Patiala State, Dadri territory from Jind State and Bawal territory from Nabha

1. *Phulkian States Gazetteer (Patiala, Jind and Nabha)*, 1904, pp. 196-97.

State were constituted into Mahendragarh district with headquarters at Narnaul. There were three tahsils, namely, Narnaul, Dadri and Bawal and Mahendragarh was a sub-tahsil. In 1949, Mahendragarh sub-tahsil was made a tahsil.

Under the Provinces and States (Absorption of Enclaves) Order, 1950, 2 villages of Mahendragarh district were transferred to Rajasthan and Bawal tahsil was broken and 78 villages transferred to Gurgaon district forming Bawal sub-tahsil and the remaining villages were added to Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils. The tahsilwise position of villages in 1951 was as follows :—

Tahsil	No. of villages
Narnaul	222
Mahendragarh	156
Dadri	184
Total :	562

With the merger of Pepsu with Punjab in 1956, the Mahendragarh district became one of 19 districts of Punjab.

The district became part of Haryana State at its formation as a separate State of the Indian Union on 1st November, 1966 and remained unaffected upto 1972 except that four villages of Dadri tahsil were transferred to Bhiwani tahsil, 3 (Dharana, Rajgarh and Halluwas) in 1962 and one (Umrawat) in 1969. On December 22, 1972, a new Bhiwani district was constituted under districts re-organisation plan alongwith Sirsa and Sonapat districts during Shri Bansi Lal's Chief Ministership. Dadri sub-division was excluded from Mahendragarh district and included in the Bhiwani district. Simultaneously the Rewari sub-division of Gurgaon district with the exception of 61 villages was added to Mahendragarh district. The number of villages, as shown below, was included in the Mahendragarh district following the territorial re-organisation on December 22, 1972 :—

Tahsil/Sub-tahsil	Villages transferred to Mahendragarh District		
	Inhabited	Un-inhabited	Total
Rewari	249	12	261
Bawal Sub-tahsil	74	1	75
Pataudi Sub-tahsil (partly)	25	4	29
	348	17	365

Similarly 22 villages of Mahendragarh tahsil were excluded and out of these, 20 villages were transferred to the Dadri tahsil and 2 to Loharu tahsil of the Bhiwani district. The following table shows the number of villages in each tahsil on the eve of the re-organisation of the district and immediately thereafter :—

Tahsil	Number of villages on the eve of December 22, 1972	Number of villages on December 22, 1972	Remarks
Narnaul	222	222	
Mahendragarh	156	134	(22 villages were transferred to the new district of Bhiwani).
Rewari	426	365	(The entire Rewari tahsil including sub-tahsil Bawal with the exception of 61 villages in Sub-tahsil Pataudi was made part of Mahendragarh district).

In April, 1974, 6 villages of the Mahendragarh tahsil, were transferred to Bhiwani district, 5 (Barda, Dalanwas, Gadarwas, Madhagarh and Degrota) to the Loharu tahsil and one (Noswa) to the Dadri tahsil¹. One village (Barheri Rehewan) of Rewari tahsil (Mahendragarh district) was transferred to Gurgaon district. However, the Mahendragarh tahsil gained 3 villages (Bhurjat, Kharkhara and Adilpur) from Dadri tahsil of Bhiwani district. In 1977, 81 villages of Rewari tahsil were constituted into Bawal tahsil.

The following table shows the number of villages in each tahsil in 1978 :

Name of tahsil	No. of villages as on March, 31, 1978
Narnaul	222
Mahendragarh	131
Rewari	283
Bawal	81
Total :	717

1. Vide Haryana Government, Revenue Department, Notification No. 2278-R-IV-74/11547, dated April 23, 1974.

SUB-DIVISIONS, TAHSILS AND THANAS

The district comprises four tahsils, namely; Mahendragarh, Rewari, Narnaul and Bawal. There are three sub-division, viz. Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari. The Bawal tahsil is under the Sub-Divisional Officer, Rewari.

There are ten police stations and ten police posts. Their details may be seen in the chapter, 'Law and Order And Justice'.

TOPOGRAPHY

The Mahendragarh district is the domain of dry-land topography throughout. Presence of inland streams, sandy plain, shifting sand dunes devoid of vegetation, fixed or fossil sand dunes, dissected upland tract, and often barren, denuded rocky hill ranges and their outcrops provide an ensemble of terrain features truly associated with semi-arid to arid environment. In east-west traverse, many of the above referred features may be recognised. The features are morphologically symmetrical and provide rapid and often large variations in relief and slope characteristics. Consequently, the overall relief is undulatory with a regional north to north-east slope.

Floodplain of seasonal streams .—The Sahibi, the Dohan and the Kasaunti or Krishnawati streams of the district make irregular floodplains. The floodplains occur in association with sandy terrain and dunes of variable morphology.

Sandy Plain.—Two prominent areas of sandy plain may be noted in the district. The first area generally encloses the western and eastern sections of the Aravali ranges, mostly in the Mahendragarh tahsil. Almost a flat sandy surface at 210 to 230 metres above the mean sea level, it is scattered with shifting sand dunes of low height. The second, and the largest of the two, is a notable landscape feature in the Rewari tahsil, east of the Aravalli hills. The plain with a regional slope from west to east falls in elevation from 250 to 190 metres in the same direction. The region is impregnated with sand dunes of variable dimensions. Mostly fixed in nature, dunes reach 3 to 6 metres from the ground level. Since the sandy plain is associated with the Aravali hills, it may be inferred that the sand composing the plain was probably transported across the low relief Aravalli ranges or through the gaps in the hills where it settled due to loss of wind speed.

Sand Dunes Tract.—The sand dune tract consists of both mobile and fixed (fossil) sand dunes. Mobile sand dunes are a common occurrence in the south and south-west of the Mahendragarh tahsil. In the

highly undulating tract of shifting sand, the elevation varies from over 270 metres near the hills in the west to less than 250 metres in the north-east. The dunes are 3 to 6 metres high above the ground. Sometimes, the monotony of the vast tract of sand is disturbed by rocky projections of low relief. The area of shifting sand is locally known as *bagar*. Fossil sand dunes are more significant and most conspicuous features of the sand dune tract. The dunes are largely confined to the Mahendragarh tahsil. Their northern limit roughly coincides with the metre gauge railway line passing through Dahina Zainabad, Kanina Khas and Mahendragarh in the district, and to Loharu in the Bhiwani district. The southern limit of the dunal tract may be roughly placed at the boundary of the Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils. The fossil dunes appear in many shapes, but their flanks mostly traverse in east west direction. The elevation falls from about 300 metres in the west to 240 metres in the east. In the east, a smaller area of fossil sand dunes may also be identified to the south-west and north of the now growing Dharuhera town. The base of sand ridges lie at some 250 metres elevation. The ridges rise generally between 3 and 4.5 metres above the surface. The discontinuous and worn-down ridge flanks give the impression of a huge U-shaped dunes; *tals* or depressions within the dunal tract possess good potential for ground water utilisation by minor irrigation works. It is not surprising, therefore, that recent changes in the cropping pattern, particularly of rabi, are related to intensive utilisation of ground water for irrigation in these areas. Generally the dunes are higher in the west, 5 to 20 metres, than in the east where the relief tends to be mostly between 2 and 5 metres. The dunes carry buried soil profile which is of special significance in interpreting the palaeogeographic environment.

Upland tract.—The unit covers the area between northern Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry hills in the Narnaul tahsil. The highly dissected upland, situated between 284 and 302 metres above the mean sea level, belongs to the Aravalli system.

Rocky outcrops.—Promontories of the pre-Cambrian Aravalli hills traverse through most part of the district in roughly south-west north-east direction. The hills are longer than wide, forming roughly parallel series of ridges. They constitute outliers of scattered older rocks occurring in newer formations or sedimentary deposits. Wide gaps within the ranges have been utilised for rails and roads and also for agriculture. Geologically, these rocky outcrops in the district consist of two distinct series. The Purana rocks in the Rewari tahsil belong to Ajabgarh series of the Delhi system. They are upper pre-Cambrian in age. In the

rest of the district, the rocks of Huronian period belong to Archaean Dharwar system. The rocks of Ajabgarh series consist of biotiteschists, slates, phyllites, quartzites, and limestones. The hillocks and discontinuous ranges are locally called *khols*. The lithologic composition of Archaean group of rocks in the Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils is diverse, and consists of crystalline limestones, quartzites, shales, slates, *gneiss* and sandstones. The outliers are locally called *tillas*.

The *khols* and *tillas* are known for mineral bearing rocks. Important minerals associated with the rocks are iron, calcite, slate, marble, limestone and dolomite. Among the building grade materials, *bajri*, *kankar* and stones are notable.

The *khols* and *tillas* are but a continuation of the Aravalli System of Rajasthan into the Mahendragarh district. They abruptly rise from the surrounding undulatory terrain and traverse as discontinuous long linear ridges and elliptical, semicircular to circular mounds of generally bare rocky outcrops. *Khols* are prominent features of terrain west of the Rewari town where numerous isolated, but roughly parallel ranges maintaining a north-east south-west alignment rise abruptly from the level land lying at about 190 metres above the sea level. The hills vary in height from about 345 to 470 metres. South of Bawana Gujar village the *khols* are 397 metres in elevation with a relief of some 61 meters. Near Khori, their height is about 404 metres above the mean sea level in which the relief is of the order of over 90 metres. However, it is near Khol that the hills reach a maximum elevation of 472 metres with over 180 metres of relative relief. The *khols* are, at places, 4 kilometres wide. A notable feature of the *khols* is a higher degree of dissection by short, very steep gullies and seasonal torrents on the west-facing slopes than on the east-facing slopes which probably are in the rain-shadow of the south-west monsoon winds. The *tillas*, likewise, run in parallel series of discontinuous and isolated rock outcrops. The highest elevation in the district occurs in these hills. Nangal Chaudhry hills in Narnaul tahsil near Haryana-Rajasthan boundary are one of the many occurrences of independent hill ranges in Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils. East of the Kasaunti or Krishnawati stream, the elevation of 626 metres and a relative relief of 286 metres is encountered just on border near Tasing (Alwar district-Rajasthan). Towards the west of the Krishnawati stream, two parallel ridges traverse the sandy plain. Elevation of 521 metres and a relative relief of 160 metres is reached near Mukandpura village. North-west and south of Narnaul town, rounded hillocks and elliptical hills are prominent features of the landscape in the sandy terrain between the Dohan and Kasaunti streams. The elevation of the conical hillock near Thana village is the highest, 652 metres. Barren

rock outcrops west of Mahendragarh town sharply rise to over 210 metres above the ground level, reaching a maximum elevation of 525 metres at Khudana. *Tillas* stretch with broken continuity for 25 kilometres in south-west north-east direction. They are from less than 0.5 kilometre to over 2 kilometres wide but reach a maximum width of over 8 kilometres in the highly dissected plateau-like area west of Khudana village. Besides, isolated stretches of small elliptical to rounded hillocks are also present west of the Dohan stream. These ranges peter out northward only to reappear after the stretch of 8 kilometres wide sandy terrain. The ridges and mounds which extend to Dadri tahsil of Bhiwani district disappear completely little to the north-west of Mankawas (Dadri tahsil—Bhiwani district).

NATURAL DRAINAGE

Most of the streams that originate or enter the district gradually shrink and lose water by high rate of evaporation and excessive percolation in sandy material.

The Sahibi, the Dohan and the Kasaunti or Krishnawati are the main seasonal streams of the district. Also, small hillslope torrents—Dhani Chima, Panchnota, Mosnota, Meghot Binza, Ganwari Jat, Nangal Durgo, Ateli mandi, Kheri and many more drain the Aravalli slopes in the Mahendragarh district. These streams originate on local hills and traverse through the village land after which they are named. Only rarely, the Dohan and the Kasaunti can flow past their long established beds to inundate vast low-lying areas. In normal conditions, these streams do not carry large enough volume of water to be of serious consequence to agriculture. The streams are active only during the rainy days.

Sahibi, the most important inland stream of southern Haryana, first enters the district near its south-eastern tip, approximately 1 kilometre south-east of Paoti village, and traverses a course of 3.7 kilometres. It re-enters the district again south east of Jarthal and flows past Khaliawas, Khatoli, Tatarpur Istamrar, and finally leaves the district a little to the west of Malahera. Preparatory to losing itself in the topographic depression of the Jhajjar (Rohtak district) tahsil, the Sahibi stream bifurcates into a separate shallow channel north-west of Daultabad in the Gurgaon district.

In the wake of torrential rain, the stream overflows its banks and inundates vast tract of land adjacent to its course. The ponded water drains slowly by percolation, and suffers heavy evaporation losses.

Some abandoned channel courses, possibly of the Sahibi rivulet occur near Nandrampur Bas, Bhatsana and Kharkhara, all in the eastern part of the district.

Kasaunti or Krishnawati originates about 1.6 kilometres south-east of Nim ka Thana in Jaipur hills (Rajasthan). Flowing in a northerly direction it enters Narnaul tahsil near Bhadanti and Dostpur, about 25 kilometres south of Narnaul. It passes about 1.6 kilometres east of Narnaul town. The stream has a course of about 49 kilometres which terminates near Dahina village at the northern boundary of the Rewari tahsil. When in flood, the water of the stream spreads towards Nuni Kalan, Saloni and Budlana villages in the Narnaul tahsil.

Dohan also takes-off from Jaipur hills about 6 kilometres short of Nim ka Thana (Rajasthan). It flows for 29 kilometres in Rajasthan territory before entering the Mahendragarh tahsil. Dohan is an important source of drinking water for the areas of the Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils. It runs a length of about 50 kilometres in the district. The stream peters out at Bassai village which is about 16 kilometres north of Mahendragarh town.

The seasonal flow in Sahibi, Kasaunti and Dohan periodically raises the level of fresh quality sub-soil water. Besides, base flow during early part of the dry season can take place. The surface water potential of these streams has, however, not been determined.

Ground Water

The water table varies from 6.23 m. in the east and 35.56 m. in the west. The main streams in the district are Dohan, Krishnawati and Sahibi which are non-perennial and carry water during S.W. monsoon period only. The ground water moves along a gradient from S.W. to N.E. In this district 87% of the area is having fresh to marginal quality of ground water.

According to assessment of ground water potential approved by NABARD, the total useable recharge is 379.70 m.cu.m. and out of it 451.78 m.cu.m. is being utilized as on 1-4-78.

The % development of the district is 119%. According to ground water assessment seven blocks out of nine blocks, namely; Ateli Nangal, Bawal, Khole, Jatusana, Nangal Chaudhry, Narnaul and Rewari were declared over developed thereby debarring from installation of fresh minor irrigation units in the area.

GEOLOGY

The rocks exposed in the district belong to Delhi Supergroup and are divided into Alwar and Ajabgarh groups. The Alwar group of rocks comprises predominantly of arenaceous sediments and are represented by massive quartzite, usually felspathic in nature, micaceous quartzite with subordinate bands of mica schist and carbonaceous phyllite. The Khudana ridge, besides containing massive quartzite also contains thinly bedded dark grey quartzite with schist intercalations, at places garnetiferous. The Ajabgarh group of rocks in the area is characterised predominantly by argillaceous sediments and include shale, slate, phyllite, pelitic schist, crystalline and impure limestone, marble and calc-schist with intercalations of quartzite. The shale, slate and silt stone occur together with a few quartzitic and cherty bands, siltstone being more predominant than the other two varieties. Both these groups of rocks are intruded by amphibolite, granite, aplite, pegmatite, calcite and vein quartz.

Alkaline earths occur as efflorescence on the surface of earth and contain predominantly carbonate and bicarbonate of sodium. Their presence on the surface make the land infertile, but on the other hand these can be economical source for sodium carbonate when the concentration of such salts reaches high. Alkaline efflorescence are quite extensive around Gohoro (Golwa) and Nangal Durgo in the area.

MINERAL RESOURCES¹

Though the Mahendragarh district has not been geologically investigated thoroughly, yet large number of minerals are available in the area. Some of the important minerals are iron-ores, calcite, lime-stone, asbestos, barytes, beryl, copper ores, comelian, garnet, etc. Except uses of these minerals, only resources are described here :—

Arsenopyrite.—The main source of the metal arsenic, which is used in medicines, occurs in association with pyrite and chalcopyrite in Teejanwali hills and at Narnaul.

Asbestos.—An occurrence of asbestos has been reported near Nahir-Ka-Bagh, about 2 kilometres from Narnaul railway station and near Durga-Ka-Nangal. Asbestos occurs as sheef-like small fibrous concentration of bundle of tremolite.

Barytes.—It occurs in minor quantities as very thin veins along the foliation planes in calc-schist rocks in Mosnota area.

1. Kanwar, R.C. and Gupta, V.J. : *Economic Resources of Mahendragarh District*, Haryana Research Journal, Vol. I, pp. 33-34.

Beryl.—Large crystals of beryl have been recorded from a few pegmatites adjacent to Bail-ki-Dhani(Bayal), Mosnota and Sarai Bahadurnagar in the Narnaul tahsil but the workable deposits do not exist in the area.

Building Material

Haryana is famous for its slate deposits of Mahendragarh district which are extensively used as ornamental and building material and form an important source of foreign currency. Other building materials include marble, limestone, quartzite, etc.

The slates are generally of greyish and greyish black colour but black, greenish black and multicoloured slates owing to stains of hydrous ferric oxide are also available, the last one finding a good demand in foreign markets. The chief deposits of slate occur near Kund, Bihali, Bajar, Rampur, Ganiar and Bas. The entire range from Khole to Kanti Khaṣ is worked for slates, blocks and beams of slate and associated shale and siltstone. Slate and siltstone are also worked out from Jatusana area. In Kund area, about 8.78 million tonnes of slate has been estimated, out of which nearly 60% is of multicoloured variety.

The white and saccharoidal marble occurs in good quantity at Antri-Biharipur which extends for about 3 km. Together with this a banded and variegated marble of different shades is also found. White marble is also found near Rasulpur, Khalra, Gohoro, Gangu Tana, Niazalipur, Dholera, Mosnota, Megho Thala, Dhancholi, Bail-ki-Dhani (Bayal), Dohkhera and Isalampur.

Fissile quartzite are worked for roofing slates and other masonry blocks at various places of the district such as Sareli, Tehla, Mukandpura, Panchnota and Sarai Bahadurnagar. Almost all the quartzite hills of the district are being worked for railway ballasts and concrete aggregate, specially at Balana, Rajawas, Khaspur, Azamnagar, Tankri and Dantal.

Calcite.—Two to three veins of calcite occur in the Mundia hill and Sonaro-ki-Pahari of the Khalra group of hills, Bail-ki-Dhani(Bayal) and Panchnota. Transparent calcite in association with white milky calcite has been reported from the Rasulpur hill. A vein of calcite, about 50 m. long and 10 m. thick, occurs in association with quartz veins near Raghunathpura. An other calcite vein about 20m. long and 5m. thick occurs near its vicinity. Near Mosnota also a calcite vein, about 45m. long and one metre thick, occurs in association with pegmatite.

Copper.—Disseminations of chalcopyrite have been reported from the Teejanwali hills, Ghataser, Khalra and Bihali. Extensive malachite encrustations have been recorded from Gohoro and Bihali area. During recent years, substantial efforts have been made to explore these deposits near Khudana and Golwa-Gangu Tana areas. At Khudana, sulphide minerals, occurring as stringers and veins of Alwar, mainly consist of pyrrholite with subordinate pyrite, minor chalcopyrite and sphalerite and rare galena. The results of borehole samples indicate a maximum of 0.5% Cu, 3.1% Zn and 0.13% Pb. The Golwa-Gangu Tana deposit is a low grade but of sizeable dimension and the average tenor of 0.30 to 0.35% copper extends over a cumulative strike length of 3350m. with widths around 30m. Malachite stains have also been observed in Ajabgarhs of Datla hill near Raghunathpura, Dokhera, Megho Thala, Jainpura and Dholhera. Specks of pyrite and chalcopyrite have also been noticed in the crystalline limestone of Dhani Bhathotha, Nangal Kalia and Dostpur.

Felspar.—A number of pegmatites in Ajabgarhs near Mosnota, Panchnota, Nangal Durgo and Bail-ki-Dhani(Bayal) contain pockets of large felspars-pure white to greyish and bluish white in colour-varying in size from 64 sq.cm. to 900 sq.cm., and the green and pink coloured felspars are estimated at 8000 tonnes upto a depth of about six metres. Good pink felspars occur in a pegmatite in Dhanota area.

Garnet.—The Ajabgarh schists and gneisses around Gohoro, Mosnota, Gangu Tana, Bail-ki-Dhani(Bayal), Durga-ka-Nangal are highly garnetiferous and occur along with staurolite crystals. The garnets are pink in colour, translucent to opaque and vary in size from minute grains to about one centimetre in diameter. At the contact of Alwar micaceous quartzite and Ajabgarh calcargillaceous rocks, bigger crystals of garnet have developed on the Sareli-Tehla ridge. During 1967-68, gem variety garnets have been found from Mukandpur, Islampur, Khatoli and Nasibpur.

Iron Ore.—Several small bodies of magnetite-hematite have been found in Dhanota-Dhancholi area. The iron in these ores ranges from 53.2 per cent to 67.2 per cent. In Antri-Biharipur areas, magnetite lenses are formed in between marble and calc-schist or biotite schist. The iron content here varies from 60.51 per cent to 96.39 per cent and the total iron ore reserve with more than 60 per cent iron is 1.5mt up to a depth of 45m. The other localities of iron-ore : Antri-Chhapra-Kamania area, Soela area, Rajawas area, Mokhnota-Bahamanwas area and Chhabra-Bibipur area.

Iron ore also occurs as pockets and lenses in calcareous quartzite in the form of hematite, limonite, jasperoid hematite and stretch from Sohla to Zerpur and beyond up to Khudana in minor amounts.

Total iron ore deposits in the district are of the order of 8.084 mt. out of which 3.398 mt. is indicated and the rest is inferred.

Kyanite.—Light blue and yellowish colour kyanite occur in quartz-kyanite rock near Gohoro, where individual crystals measuring upto 10 cm. in length are found along with garnets and staurolite in an area of 100mx10m size.

An occurrence of kyanite was reported from Hassanpur, 8 kilometres away from the south-west of Narnaul. It also occurs in bluish thin blades as well as in short and thick crystals usually in association with Calcite in the hills just west of Narnaul.

Limestone.—Good quality limestone occurs at Dochana and Dhani Bhattho and contains 33 to 57 per cent CaO. Dochana limestone runs over a strike length of 1200m. and contain in all about 8 mt. of both crystalline variety and dolomitic limestone, while the Dhani Bhattho reserve is of the order of 0.243 mt. upto a depth of 30m. Good quality limestone at Nangal Kalia has been estimated at about 0.17 mt. upto a depth of 14.5 m. The Banihari-Kalva-Bamanwas limestone indicates CaO between 34.5 per cent to 44.9%, MgO between 1.5 per cent to 14.3 per cent, acid insolubles between 7.2 per cent and 28 per cent and R_2O_3 between 1.4 per cent and 6.5 per cent. At Banihari, three bands of grey crystalline limestone occur within dark grey limestone bands and extends over a strike length of 300 m. with a width varying between 8 to 10m. The Mosnota limestone is light coloured crystalline variety and has been estimated at 47,040 metric tonnes with an average CaO—33.79%, MgO—12.93% and acid insoluble—9.36%. At Dhanota three bands of crystalline limestone indicate on an average CaO—32%, MgO—7.9% and acid-insoluble—27.22% and have been estimated at 3,03,740 metric tonnes up to a depth of 35 m. Crystalline limestone at Sadha-ki-Dhani contains CaO as high as 44.9% and acid insolubles upto 18.6% but magnesia content is generally high. Average chemical and analysis for this deposit is CaO—33.7%, MgO—13.9% and acid insolubles—3%.

Quartz.—White granular massive quartz veins occur near Gohoro, Gangu Tana, Ghataser, Khalra, Bail-ki-Dhani(Bayal) and Barundla. Alwar quartzite in the area also contain a number of quartz veins near Atela Khurd and Kapuri ridge. However, crystals of quartz are rarely met with in the area.

Mica.—Muscovite occurs at various places in the Narnaul tahsil in coarse-grained granite. The local deposits which are specially noteworthy are at Ghatasher, Sirohi-Nangal, Pachanota and Mosnota. The area covered by these places measures 20 square kilometres. The mica occurs in lenticular veins and the micabooks obtain size of 0"x6".

Greenish muscovite also occurs in most of the pegmatites which are found as intrusives in the rocks of Delhi system. These muscovite plates are smaller than a rupee coin and are not of any commercial use.

Manganese.—Extensive deposits of limestone and shale impregnated with manganese-oxide occur at Goela, Durga-ka-Nangal, 15 kilometres in the south-west of Narnaul. It is estimated that Goela mine has 40,000 tonnes of manganiferrous limestone.

Marble.—Grey coloured banded marble, is being chiefly quarried for lime burning from the mines of Dhani Bathotha, Dongli, Kamania-Chapra Biharipur and Nangal Durgo. Grey banded marble is also found near Nangal Durgo and closely resembles the Dhani Bathotha stone.

The marble samples collected by the Geological Department shows containment of 22.36 per cent insolubles (silica), 3.34 per cent alumina and iron oxide, 24.8 per cent lime and 15.05 per cent magnesia.

White marble similar to that of the Antri-Biharipur ridge occurs at Dhokhera, 8 kilometres in the south of Biharipur where it forms a high ridge. 125 feet thick band of white and black marble is quarried on the Datla hills and it has been supplied to some extent for the architectural requirements of Narnaul.

A typical white marble also occurs between Dhanauta and Dhan-choli in the south-western part of the district, about 3 kilometres from Nizampur railway station. Marble associated with iron ores at this place is milky white in colour and is of very high grade.

Slate Stone.—Slate stone is found in abundance in the areas of Kund, Behali-Bajar and Ateli.

Gold.—Except for the claim that gold was found in very great percentage in an assay of the material from the so called Teejanwali hill mine at Narnaul, there is no other source for gold in the rocks or alluvium of Narnaul.

Silver.—A geologist has mentioned assays with 1 oz. 8 cwts. 18 grs. of gold another with 1 oz. 5 cwts, 0 grs. of silver in samples of the so-called copper-ore from Teejanwali hill near Narnaul.

FUTURE POSSIBILITIES

There are some ores and minerals which are found in workable quantities in the Mahendragarh district. But with the increase in demand in the country and hoping to strike more deposits in the area, calcite, garnet, quartz and felspar may become useful but they must be fully investigated before taking up their mining or quarrying. The minerals and ores which appear to have immediate possibilities for working for industrial purposes are iron ores, manganese ores, mica and stone for building and road construction.

The barytes of Bail area requires attention to estimate the reserves before it could be supplied to the oil companies for heavy drilling needs. The limestone of Dhani Bathotha yields good lime and is likely to be an excellent flux in iron ore smelting. In it magnesia percentage is too high for portland cement to be manufactured. However, this aspect of the material is a matter for further attention in combination with the calcite of the Khalra and Datla hills quarries.

FLORA¹

The xerophytic type of flora dominates in the district. The district is inadequately wooded and some parts are practically bare of trees. Tree species found are *khairi*, *jand*, *pahari kikar*, *kikar*, *dhok*, *babool*, *røhera*, *janti* or *reru*, *jal* or *van*, *beri*, *barh*, *pipal*, *lasura*, *imli*, *barna*, *shisham*, *siris*, *neem*, *farash*, *henna*, *papri*, *gular*, *indokh*, *tut*, *gul-mohar*, *simbal* or *samul*, *kandu*, *bakain*, *safeda*, *arind* and *dhak*. *Kikar* or *pahari kikar* is found all over the district. *Farash* is common in Rewari tahsil. *Jand* and *jal* are the dominant species of the sandy areas.

Shrubs found in the district are *pala*, *hins*, *Puthkanda*, *bansa*, *panwar*, *karir*, *khip*, *Aak*, *phog* and *Nagphani*. *Amarbel* is a common parasite climber. One of the most characteristic shrubs is *pala*, a prickly shrub, which covers the fields thickly during September and October. It is very useful shrub; its leaves are used as fodder; its fruits are eaten; its thorny bushes are used for hedges or as fuel and its roots for dyeing leather. *Nagphani* forms thick hedge round many villages in Rewari tahsil.

Medicinal plants found in the district are *indirain*, *asgandha*, *glo*, *kharnthi*, *bhakra* and *dhatura*. However, their collection becomes uneconomical as these are found in scattered form.

The important grasses found in the district are *anjan*, *dhaman*, *dub*, *kana*, *dabh palwa* and *chirya*. The palatable grasses like *anjan*,

1. The botanical names can be seen in the table at the end of the chapter.

dhaman and *dub* have dwindled due to excessive grazing in village common land.

Jand, *neem*, *bakain*, *khairi*, mesquite or *pahari kikkar*, henna and eucalyptus have been planted to increase the forest wealth.

FAUNA¹

Mammals

The district is inhabited by various groups of mammals. Primates are represented by *rhesus macaque* or *bandar* and the *langur*. The tiger and leopard, once abundant in the district are no more seen here. The carnivorous animals found in the district are the jungle cat, the small Indian civet, jackal and the Indian fox.

The insectivorous like the grey musk-shrew or *chuchunder*, common yellow bat and the Tichelli's bat are usually seen.

The five striped palm squirrel or *gilheri*, the Indian porcupine or *sahi*, the Indian gerbille, the common house rat and mouse are common rodents found.

The Indian hare belonging to the order *lagomorpha* is also found in the bushes.

Chinkara is seen in the district specially in Bawal tahsil and Nimbi Duloth and Nangal Mala forests in Mahendragarh tahsil. Black buck though in limited number is found near Rewari and Sureti, Dalanwas and Mahendragarh in Mahendragarh tahsil. The blue bull or Nilgai is common all over the district; though it damages the crops yet villagers protect the animal due to religious sentiments.

The species facing extinction in the district are chinkara, black buck, blue bull, striped hyaena and *bheriya*.

BIRDS

Game birds.—A large number of game birds are found in the district, some are residential while others are winter visitors. Various types of ducks such as spotbill duck, cotton teal, comb duck, large whistling teal, tree duck and dabchick are found throughout the district at suitable habitats. Ducks and geese such as eastern grey-lag goose, barheaded goose, brahminy duck, common shelduck, pintail, common teal, mallard, gadwali, wigeon, blue winged teal, shoveller, common pochard, ferruginous ducks and tufted duck visit the district during winter.

1. The zoological names can be seen in the table at the end of chapter.

Other game birds like black partridges (the state bird) and grey partridges and quails are common. Grey quail is a winter visitor while black-breasted or rain quail, jungle bush quail, whistler or rock bush quail are resident species. Western turtle dove, Indian spotted dove, Senegal dove and Indian emerald dove are generally found in all cultivated fields.

Sandgrouses, namely, the Indian sandgrouse and blackbellied are resident birds while large pintail sandgrouse and spotted sandgrouse visit the district in winter. Their flocks, large and small, regularly visit favourable waterholes.

The district is also inhabited by large number of other birds which add beauty to the wildlife. Birds like large cormorant, little cormorant, darter or snake bird, eastern grey heron and paddy bird are found on the ponds and lakes of the district throughout the year. Other birds like eastern large egrets, median egret, little egret and little bittern affect inland water marshes, *jheels*, etc. Cattle egret can be seen moving alongwith grazing cattle.

Among cranes, eastern common crane and Demoiselle crane are found near stream beds and fields of winter crops. Indian sarus crane is a resident bird and breeds during rains.

A good number of painted stork, open bill stork, whitenecked stork, blacknecked stork, white ibis, Indian blackibis are found near the streams, *jheels*, marshes, inundated lands and cultivated fields. It is common during rains.

During winter eastern Baillon's crake and spotted crake can be seen on the edges of ponds and lakes feeding on aquatic plants. Indian blue-breasted banded rail, slatylegged banded crake, northern ruddy crake, whitebreasted waterhen, watercock, Indian moorhen, Indian purple moorhen are resident birds and can be seen on ponds, inundated paddy fields, etc. Coot, is a resident as well as winter visitor and affects *jheels* and tanks.

Different types of waders are also found. Waders like dusky redshank, eastern redshank, marsh sandpiper, green shank, green sandpiper, wood or spotted sandpiper, common sandpiper, pintail snipe, fantail snipe and temminck's stint visit suitable marshy areas and the edges of ponds during winter. Pheasant tailed jacana, painted snipe and Indian blackwinged stilt are resident birds and affect *jheels*, marshes, tanks and ponds. Indian river tern and blackbellied tern are found in

the stream beds throughout the year. Indian whistled tern is a winter visitor.

Among the kingfishers, the most common are the Indian pied kingfisher, Indian small blue kingfisher and whitebreasted kingfisher. These birds can be seen hurling themselves into water to catch fish. These are residential birds.

The common peafowl, the national bird, is quite common and is seen in orchards, fields and gardens.

The other common birds are large Indian parakeet, rose-ringed parakeet, Indian house crow, Indian house sparrow, blue-cheeked bee-eater, goldenbacked woodpecker, blue jay, coppersmith, Indian golden oriole, pied crested cuckoo, *koel*, common crow pheasant, redvented bulbul, white-eared bulbul, verditer flycatcher, Indian magpie robin, Indian purple sunbird, red *munia*, Indian spotted *munia* and crested bunting. Besides, such attractive birds as hoopoe and Indian white-eye are also seen in and around villages.

Birds of Economic Importance.—Scavengers like pariah kite, brahminy kite, whitebacked vulture, tawny eagle, white-eyed buzzard eagle and Indian jungle crow keep the district cleared of dead animals by feeding on them. The Indian scavenger vulture, besides feeding on dead animals, consumes a large quantity of human excreta. Predators like blackwinged kite, Indian *shikara*, laggar falcon and kestrel are residential birds of the district. Other birds like pale harrier, marsh harrier, eastern steppe eagle visit the district in winter. These along with spotted owlet and eagle owl keep a check on the population of rodent pests and various insect pests by consuming them.

Majority of the birds feed on insects and caterpillars injurious to agriculture. Swifts such as Indian house swift, Indian palm swift and swallows like western swallow and Indian wiretailed swallow consume insects as their staple diet. Shrikes or butcher birds as they are popularly known, feed upon a considerable quantity of insects. Other insect eating birds are king crow, Brahminy myna, Indian pied myna, Indian myna, bank myna, babblers, warblers and flycatchers. Larks and wagtails feed on a considerable amount of worms in addition to insects. Rosy paster and common starling both winter visitors may specially be mentioned for their role in destroying numerous insects including locusts on a large scale and thus help in saving crops to some extent.

REPTILES

Snakes.—The common poisonous snakes are krait, cobra, Russel's viper and *phoorsa*. The non-poisonous snakes are blind snake, Indian python, John's sand boa, wolf snake and rat snake.

Lizards.—All the lizards found in the district are non-poisonous. The common lizard can be seen in the houses. *Kirla* or *girgit* is found in the lawns and hedges and attract the attention by changing its colours. *Sanda* is found in sandy areas. Besides, a few other types of lizards are found in bushes and areas of thick vegetation.

Tortoise.—Two species of tortoise are found in the district.

Frogs.—The frogs commonly found, during the rains and in the ponds are Indian bull frog, Indian cricket frog, Indian burrowing frog and common toad.

FISH

The streams and ponds abound in many species of fish. These are *parri*, *katla*, *mrigal*, *bata*, *kalabans*, *rohu*, *puthia* or *kudali*, or *pitula*, *magur*, *singhara*, *ghally*, *mallee*, *dolla* and *curd*.

CLIMATE

The climate, except during the monsoon, is characterised by the dryness of air, a hot summer and a cold winter. The year may be broadly divided into four seasons, viz. winter, summer, monsoon and post monsoon or the transition period. The winter starts in November and continues up to March. The summer season is from April to June. The period from July to mid-September is the south-west monsoon season.—Mid-September to the end of October constitutes the post monsoon or the transition period.

Rainfall.—Though there are six rain-gauge stations (Narnaul, Mahendragarh, Rewari, Bawal, Khole and Jatusana), records of rainfall in the district are available only for 3 stations, Jatusana, Rewari and Khole for sufficiently long periods. The details of rainfall at these stations and for the district as a whole are given in Table I and II of Appendix. The normal annual rainfall in the district is 454.6 mm. The rainfall in the district increases from west to east. About 76 per cent of the annual rainfall in the district is received during the south-west monsoon months, July to September. July and August are rainiest months. There is some rainfall in the pre monsoon month June mostly in the form of thundershowers. The variation in the annual rainfall from year to year is appreciable. In the 50-year period (1901-1950),

the highest annual rainfall which was 244 per cent of the normal occurred in 1917 while the very next year the annual rainfall was the lowest in the 50-year period amounting to only 30 per cent of the normal. The annual rainfall was less than 80 per cent of the normal in 14 years and three consecutive years of such low rainfall occurred once in the district during the fifty-year-period 1901 to 1950. Jatusana had two consecutive years thrice while Khole had five consecutive years once of such low rainfall. The annual rainfall in the district was between 201 and 600 mm. in 39 years out of 50. On an average there are 23 rainy days (i.e. days with rainfall of 2.5 mm. or more) in a year in the district. This number varies from 32 at Rewari to 19 at Jatusana.

The heaviest rainfall in 24 hours recorded at Jatusana station in the district was 370.8 mm on August 12, 1885.

Temperature.—There is one meteorological observatory in the district situated at Narnaul. Normals of meteorological elements have not been compiled for this station as records are not available for sufficient period. The account which follows is therefore based on the records of the observatories in the neighbouring districts where climatic conditions are similar to those in this district. From March temperature begins to increase—May and June are the hottest months, when the mean daily maximum temperature is about 41°C and the mean daily minimum temperature is about 27°C. While days are a little hotter in May than in June, nights are warmer in June than in May. From April onwards hot scorching and dustladen winds blow and these add to discomfort. Maximum temperature may often go above 46°C. With the onset of the monsoon by the end of June there is appreciable drop in the day temperature but due to increased humidity and nights remaining as warm as during the latter part of the summer, the weather remains uncomfortable. After the withdrawal of the monsoon by mid-September till October, the days are as warm as in the monsoon months but the nights become progressively cooler. After October there is decrease in both the day and night temperature, the decrease being more rapid after the middle of November. January is the coldest month. The mean daily minimum temperature is 5.6°C and the mean daily maximum temperature is about 22°C in January. During the cold season the district is affected by cold waves in association with passing western disturbances and on such occasions the minimum temperature occasionally drops down to about the freezing point of water and frosts may occur.

Humidity.—The air is generally dry during the summer season when the humidity is of the order of 40 per cent in the morning and 20 per cent in the afternoon. Humidity is high during the monsoon season, about 75 per cent in the morning and 60 per cent in the afternoon. During winter humidity is about 60 per cent in the morning and 40 per cent in the afternoon.

Winds.—Winds are generally light in the district during the summer and monsoon season. Winds blow generally from the sector south-west-west-north-west during morning and from the north-western quadrant during afternoon throughout the year and during July and August they also blow from east and south-east.

Cloudiness.—In the south-west monsoon season and for brief spells of a day or two in the cold season in association with passing western disturbances, heavily clouded or overcast skies generally prevail. During the rest of the year the sky is mostly clear or lightly clouded.

Special Weather Phenomena.—April to June is the period with the highest incidence of duststorms. Thunder-storms occur throughout the year and its incidence is maximum in August and minimum in November. Thunderstorms are sometimes accompanied with heavy showers, squall and occasional hail. Fog occurs during winter season, Dust storms occur occasionally during summer.

BOTANICAN NAMES (FLORA)

Trees

<i>Khairi</i>	<i>Acacia senegal</i> Willd
<i>Jand</i>	<i>Prosopis cineraria</i> (L.)(Druce)
<i>Dhok</i>	<i>Anogeissus latifolius</i> (Roxb.) Wall. ex Bedd
<i>Babool</i>	<i>Acacia jaoguemontii</i> Benth
<i>Rohera</i>	<i>Tacomella undulata</i> (Sm.) Seem
<i>Janti or Reru</i>	<i>Acacia leucophloea</i> Willd
<i>Jal or Van</i>	<i>Salvedora oleoides.</i> Decne
<i>Beri</i>	<i>Ziziphus mauritiana</i> (Lamk)
<i>Barh</i>	<i>Ficus bengalensis</i> (L.)
<i>Pipal</i>	<i>Ficus religiosa</i> (L.)
<i>Lasura</i>	<i>Cordia dichotoma.</i> (Forst)
<i>Imli</i>	<i>Tamarindus indica</i> L.
<i>Barna</i>	<i>Crateva nurvala</i> Buch.—Ham.
<i>Shisham</i>	<i>Dalbergia sissoo</i> Roxb .
<i>Siris</i>	<i>Albizia Lebbeck</i> (L.) Benth
<i>Neem</i>	<i>Azadirachta indica</i> Juss. Syn.— <i>Melia</i> <i>azadirachta</i> L.
<i>Farash</i>	<i>Tamarix aphylla</i> (L.) Karst
<i>Henna</i>	<i>Acacia tortilis.</i> L.
<i>Papri</i>	<i>Pongamia pinnata</i> (L.) Pierre
<i>Gular</i>	<i>Ficus racemosa</i> L.
<i>Indokh</i>	<i>Anogeissus Coronate</i> Staff
<i>Tut</i>	<i>Morus alba</i> L.
<i>Gulmohar</i>	<i>Delonix regia</i> (Boj.) Raf.
<i>Simbal or Samul</i>	<i>Bombax ceiba</i> L.
<i>Kandu</i>	<i>Diospyros melanoxylon</i> Roxb.

<i>Bakain</i>	<i>Melis azedaraeh</i> L.
<i>Safeda</i>	<i>Eucalyptus</i>
<i>Arind</i>	<i>Recinus commuines</i>
<i>Dhak</i>	<i>Butea monosperama</i> (Lamk.) Taub.
<i>Kikar</i>	<i>Acacia nilotica</i> (L.) Willd. ex. Del. <i>Subsp. indica</i> (Benth) Brenan syn.
<i>Pahari Kikar</i>	<i>Prosopis juliflora</i> (Sw.) DC.
Shrubs	
<i>Pala</i>	<i>Zizyphus numnularia</i>
<i>Hins</i>	<i>Capparis sepiara</i> L. <i>Carissa</i> <i>spinorum</i> L.
<i>Puthkanda</i>	<i>Achyranthes aspera</i> L.
<i>Bansa</i>	<i>Adhatoda vasiea</i> Nees.
<i>Panwar</i>	(i) <i>Cassia tora</i> L. (ii) <i>Cassia occidentalis</i> L.
<i>Karir</i>	<i>Capparis decidua</i> (Forsk.) Edgew
<i>Khip</i>	<i>Leptadenia pyrotechnica</i> (Forsk.) Decme. Decne. Syn. L. spartium Wight
<i>Ak</i>	<i>Calotropis procera</i> (Ait). Ait. f.
<i>Phog</i>	<i>Calligonum polygonoides</i> L.
<i>Nagphani</i>	<i>Cactus indicus</i>
Medicinal Plants	
<i>Indirain</i>	<i>Citrullus colocynthis</i> (L.) Schrad
<i>Asgandha</i>	<i>Withania sonnifera</i> (L.) Dunal
<i>Glo</i>	<i>Tinospora cordifolia</i> Miers ex. Hook. f. & T, Thoms
<i>Kharnthi</i>	<i>Sida acuta</i> Burm f.
<i>Bhakra</i>	<i>Tribulus terrestris</i> L.
<i>Dhatura</i>	<i>Datura stramonium</i> L.

Grasses

*Anjan**Dhaman**Dub**Kana**Dabh**Pala**Chirya*

ZOOLOGICAL NAMES (FAUNA)

Mammals

Rhesus macaque or bandar

Common langur

Tiger

Leopard

Jungle cat

Small Indian civet

Common mongoose

Jackal

Indian fox

Grey musk-shrew or *Chuchunder*

Common yellow bat

Tickelli's bat

Five striped palm squirrel or
gilheri.Indian porcupine or *sahi*

Indian gerbille

Common house rat

Cenchrus ciliaris L.*Cenchrus setigerus* Vahl*Cynodon dactylon* (L.) Pers.*Saccharum bengalense* Retz. Syn.
Erianthus munja (Roxb.) Jesw.*Desmostachya bipinnata* (L.) Stapf.*Dichanthi Annulatum* (Forest.)
Stapf.*Heteropogon contortus* (L.) Beauv*Macaca mulatta* (Zimmermann)*Presbytis entellus* (Duffresne)*Panthera tigris* (Linnaeus)*Panthera pardus* (Linnaeus)*Felis chaus* Guldenstaedt*Viverricula indica* (Desmarest)*Herpestes edwardsi* (Geoffroy)*Canis auris* Linnaeus*Vulpes benghalensis* (Shaw)*Suncus murinus* (Linnaeus)*Scotophilus heathi* (Horsfield)*Hesperoptenus tickelli* (Blyth)*Funambulus pennanti* (Wroughton)*Hystrix indica* (Kerr)*Tatera indica* (Hardwicke)*Rattus rattus* (Linnaeus)

Mouse

Mus musculus (Linnaeus)

Indian hare

Lepus nigricollis (Cuvier)

Chinkara

Gazella gazella (Pallas)

Blackbuck

Antelope cervicapra (Linnaeus)

Bluebull or *nilgai*

Boselaphus tragocamelus (Pallas)

Birds

Spotbill duck

Anas poecilorhyncha (Forster)

Cotton teal

Nettapus coromandelianus coromandelianus (Gmelin)

Tree duck

Dendrocygna Javanica (Horsfield)

Dabchick

Podiceps reficollis capensis (Salvadori)

Eastern greylag goose

Anser anser rubrirostris (Swindoe)

Barheaded goose

Anser indicus (Latham)

Braminy duck

Tadorna ferruginea (Pallas)

Pintail

Anas ecata

Common teal

Anas crecca crecca (Linnaeus)

Mallard

Anas platyrhynchos Linnaeus

Gadwall

Anas strepera strepera Linnaeus

Wigeon

Anas penelope Linnaeus

Bluewinged teal

Anas guerguedula Linnaeus

Shoveller

Anas clypeata Linnaeus

Common pochard

Aythya ferina Linnaeus

Ferruginous duck

Aythya nyroca (Guldenstadt.)

Tufted duck

Aythya fuligula (Linnaeus)

Black partridge (State bird)

Francolinus francolinus asiae (Bonaparte)

Grey partridge

Francolinus pondicerianus interpositus (Hartert)

Grey quail	<i>Coturnix coturnix coturnix</i> (Linnaeus)
Blackbreasted or rain quail	<i>Coturnix coromandelica</i> (Gmelin)
Jungle bush quail	<i>Perdicula asiatica punjaubi</i> (Whistler)
Rock bush quail	<i>Perdicula argoondah</i> (Sykes)
Western turtle dove	<i>Streptopelia orientalis meena</i> (Sykes)
Indian spotted dove	<i>Streptopelia chinensis suratensis</i> (Gmelin)
Senegal dove	<i>Streptopelia senegalensis cambayensis</i> (Gmelin.)
Indian emerald dove	<i>Chalcophaps indica indica</i> Linnaeus
Indian sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles exustus erlangeri</i> (Neumann)
Blackbellied sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles orientalis orientalis</i> Linnaeus
Pintail sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles alchata caudacutus</i> (Gmelin)
Spotted sandgrouse	<i>Pterocles senegallus</i> (Linnaeus)
Large cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax carbo sinensis</i> (Shaw)
Little cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax nigar</i> (Vieillot)
Dater or snake bird	<i>Anhinga rufa melanogaster</i> Pennant
Eastern grey heron	<i>Ardea cinerea rectirostris</i> Gould
Paddy bird	<i>Ardeola grayii</i> (Sykes)
Eastern large egrets	<i>Egretta alba modesta</i> (J.E. Grey)
Median egret	<i>Egretta intermedia intermedia</i> (Wagler)
Little egret	<i>Egretta garzetta garzetta</i> (Linnaeus)
Little bittern	<i>Ixobrychus minutus minutus</i> (Linnaeus)
Cattle egret	<i>Bubulcus ibis coromandus</i> (Boddaert)
Eastern common crane	<i>Grus grus lilfordi</i> Sharpe
Demoiselle crane	<i>Anthropoides virgo</i> (Linnaeus)
Indian sarus crane	<i>Grus antigone antigone</i> (Linnaeus)

Painted stork	<i>Ibis leucocephalus</i> (Pennant)
Openbill stork	<i>Anastomus oscitans</i> (Boddaert)
White ibis	<i>Threskiornis melanocephala</i> (Latham)
Blacknecked stork	<i>Xenorhynchus asiaticus asiaticus</i> (Latham)
Indian Black ibis	<i>Pseudibis papillosa papillosa</i> (Temminck)
Eastern Baillon's crane	<i>Porzana pusilla pusilla</i> (Pallas)
Spotted crane	<i>Porzana porzana</i> (Linnaeus)
Slaty-legged banded crane	<i>Rallina eurizonoides amauroptera</i> (Jerson)
Norther ruddy crane	<i>Amaurornis fuscus bakeri</i> (Hartert)
Whitebreasted waterhen	<i>Amaurornis phoenicurus chinensis</i> (Boddaert)
Watercock	<i>Gallixrex cinerea cinerea</i> (Gmelin)
Indian moorhen	<i>Gallinula chloropus indica</i> Blyth
Coot	<i>Fulica atra atra</i> Linnaeus
Dusky Redshank	<i>Iringa erythropus</i> (Pallas)
Eastern Redshank	<i>Iringa totanus eurhinus</i> (Oberholser)
Marsh sandpiper	<i>Iringa stagnatilis</i> (Bechstein)
Green Shank	<i>Iringa nebularia</i> (Gunnerus)
Green sandpiper	<i>Iringa ochropus</i> Linnaeus
Wood sandpiper	<i>Iringa glareola</i> Linnaeus
Common sandpiper	<i>Iringa hypoleucos</i> Linnaeus
Pintail snipe	<i>Capella stemura</i> (Bonnaparte)
Fantail snipe	<i>Capella galinago gallinago</i> (Linnaeus)
Temmincks stint	<i>Calidris temminchii</i> (Leisler)
Pheasant tailed Jacana	<i>Hydrophasianus chiturgus</i> (Scopoli)
Painted snipe	<i>Rostratula benghalensis benghalensis</i> (Linnaeus)

GENERAL

- Indian blackwinged stilt
- Indian river tern
- Blackbellied tern
- Indian whistered tern
- Indian pied kingfisher
- Indian small blue kingfisher
- Whitebreasted kingfisher
- Common peafowl
- Large Indian parakeet
- Rose ringed parakeet
- Indian house crow
- Indian house sparrow
- Blue-cheeked bee-eater
- Golden backed woodpecker
- Blue jay
- Coppersmith
- Indian golden oriole
- Pied crested cuckoo
- Koel*
- Common crow-pheasant
- Redvented bulbul
- Himantopus himantopus himantopus* (Linnaeus)
- Sterna aurantis* Grey
- Sterna acuticauda* Grey
- Chlidonais hybrida indica* (Stephens)
- Ceryla rudis leucomelanura reichenbach*
- Alcedo atthis bengalensis* Gmelin
- Haleyon smyrnensis smyrnensis* (Linnaeus)
- Pavo cristatus* Linnaeus
- Psittacula eupatria* (Linnaeus)
- Psittacula kramari borealis* (Neumann)
- Corvus splendens splendens* Vieillot
- Passer domesticus indicus* Jardine and Selby
- Merops superciliosus* (Linnaeus)
- Dinopium benghalense benghalense* (Linnaeus.)
- Corais benghalensis bengalensis* (Linnaeus)
- Magalaima haemaoephala indica* (Latham)
- Oriolus oriolus kundoo* Sykes
- Clamator iacobinus serratus* (Sparrman)
- Eudynamis scolopacea scolopacea* (Linnaeus)
- Centropus sinensis sinensis* (Stephens)
- Pycnonotus cafer* (Linnaeus)

White-eared bulbul	<i>Pycnonotus leucogenys</i> (Grey)
Verditer flycatcher	<i>Muscicapa thalassina thalassina</i> Swainson
Indian magpie robin	<i>Copsychus svecicus svecicus</i> (Linnaeus)
Indian purple sunbird	<i>Nectarania asiatica asiatica</i> (Latham)
Red munia	<i>Estrilda amandava amandava</i> (Linn.)
Indian spotted munia	<i>Lonchura punctulata punctulata</i> (Linn.)
Crested bunting	<i>Melophws lathamii</i> (Gray)
Hoopoe	<i>Upupa epops</i> Linnaeus
Indian White eye	<i>Zosterops paepebrosa paepebrosa</i> (Temminck)
Pariah kite	<i>Milvus migrans</i> (Boddaert)
Brahminy kite	<i>Haliastur indus indus</i>
Whitebacked vulture	<i>Gyps bengalensis</i> (Gmelin)
Tawny eagle	<i>Aquila rapa vinahiana</i> Franklin
White eyed buzzard-eagle	<i>Butastur teera</i> (Franklin)
Indian jungle crow	<i>Corvus macrorhynchos culminatus</i> Sykes
Indian scavenger vulture	<i>Neophron percnopterus givginianus</i> (Latham)
Blackwinged kite	<i>Elanus caeruleus vociferus</i> (Latham)
Indian shikra	<i>Accipiter badius dussumieri</i> (Temminck)
Lagger falcon	<i>Falco biarmicus</i> (Temminck)
Kestrel	<i>Ealco tinnunculus</i> (Linnaeus)
Pale Harrier	<i>Circus macrourus</i> (Gmelin)
Marsh harrier	<i>Circus aerugin sus aeruginous</i> (Linnaeus)
Eastern steppe eagle	<i>Aquila nipalensis nipalensis</i> (Hodgson)

Spotted owl	<i>Athena brama</i> (Temminck)
Eagle owl	<i>Bubo bubo</i> (Linn.)
Indian house swift	<i>Spus affinis affinis</i> (J.E. Gray)
Indian palm swift	<i>Cypsiurus parvus batasiensis</i> (J.E.Grey)
Western swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica rustica</i> Linnaeus
Indian wiretailed swallow	<i>Hirundo smithi filifera</i> Stephens
King crow	<i>Dicrurus adsimilis albirictus</i> (Hodgson)
Brahminy myna	<i>Sturnus pagodarum</i> (Gmelin)
Indian pied myna	<i>Sturnus contra contra</i> Linnaeus
Indian myna	<i>Acridotheres tristis tristis</i> (Linnaeus)
Bank myna	<i>Acridotheres ginginianus</i> (Latham)
Rosy paster and starling	<i>Sturnus roseus</i> Linnaeus
Reptiles	
	Family : Elapidae
Common Indian Krait	<i>Bungarus caeruleus</i> (Schneider)
Indian cobra	<i>Naja naja</i> (Linn.)
	Family : Viperidae
Russels viper	<i>Vipers russelli</i> (Shaw)
Phoorsa	<i>Echis carinalus</i> (Schneider)
	Family : Typhopidae
Blind snake	<i>Typhlops porrectus</i> Slociczke
	Family : Boidae
Indian python	<i>Python molurus</i> (Linn.)

John's sand boa

Eryx johni johni (Russell)

Family : Colubridae

Wolf snake

Lycodon striatus (Shaw)

Rat snake

Plyas mucosus (Linn.)

Common lizards

(i) *Hemidactylus brooki* (Gray)

(ii) *Hemidactylus flaviviridis* (Ruppel)

Kirla or girgit

Calotes versicolour (Daudin)

Sanda

Uromastix hardwicki (Gray)

Other types of lizards found in the district

(i) *Mabuya macularia* (Dum. and Bibr)

(ii) *Ophiomorus tridactylus* (Blyth)

(iii) *Varanus monitor* (Linn.)

Amphibians

Tortoises found in the district

(i) *Geoclemys hamiltoni* (Gray)

(i) *Kachuga dhongoka* (Gray)

Family : Ranidae

Indian bull frog

Rana tigrina (Daudin)

Indian cricket frog

Rana limnocharis neigman

Indian burrowing frog

Rana breviceps Schneider

Family : Bufonidae

Common toad

Bufo melanostictus Schneider

Fishes

Parri

Notopterus notoprerus (Pallas)

Katla

Catla catla (Hamilton)

Mrigal

Cirrhinus mrigala (Hamilton)

Bata

Labeo bata (Hamilton)

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Bata

Labeo bata (Hamilton)

GENERAL

Kalabans	<i>Labeo calbasu</i> (Hamilton)
Rohu	<i>Labeo rohita</i> (Hamilton)
Puthia, Kudali or Pitula	<i>Puntius sarana</i> *(Hamilton) *sar.12
Magur	<i>Clarias batrachus</i> (Linnaeus)
Singhara	<i>Aovichihys seenghala</i> (Sykes)
Ghally	<i>Ompok bimaculatus</i> (Bloch)
Mallee	<i>Wallago attu</i> (Block & Schneider)
Dolla	<i>Channa punctatus</i> (Bloch)
Curd	<i>Channa striatus</i> (Bloch)

1. Channidae fish, Tamil Nadu, India, 1954. (1954) 22: 1-2. (Madras University, Madras, India)

2. Channidae fish, Tamil Nadu, India, 1954. (1954) 22: 1-2. (Madras University, Madras, India)

3. Channidae fish, Tamil Nadu, India, 1954. (1954) 22: 1-2. (Madras University, Madras, India)

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7. Channidae fish, Tamil Nadu, India, 1954. (1954) 22: 1-2. (Madras University, Madras, India)

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10. Channidae fish, Tamil Nadu, India, 1954. (1954) 22: 1-2. (Madras University, Madras, India)

CHAPTER II

HISTORY

THE ANCIENT PERIOD

Mahendragarh was earlier known as 'Kanaud' because of its association with Kanaudia group of Brahmans¹. During the middle of the nineteenth century, it came to be known as Mahendragarh. How it was known in earlier periods is not known. Possibly it may have formed a part of the Kurujangala², a territorial designation known to traditional literature.

Although the nomenclature of the district is not very old, the antiquity of the area it covered, can be stretched to earlier periods also. The archaeological explorations conducted in the region have brought to light late-Harappan sites specially from its Rewari tahsil³. This type of evidence along with Painted Grey Ware, Northern Black Polished Ware and Early Historical Ware is gathered from the adjoining districts of Bhiwani and Gurgaon.⁴ In the absence of archaeological excavations in the district nothing more can be added to what has been stated above. So far not a single PGW site has come to light in the district, perhaps suggesting the north-eastward migrations of the Aryans from the banks of the Saraswati and the Drisadvati possibly due to the drying up of their courses. Most of the sites explored in the district belong to the late-medieval period. The district, it may further be pointed out, might possibly have remained outside the main stream of Aryan culture and hence has not been specifically mentioned in the traditional literature as an independent territorial unit. In the absence of evidence it also becomes extremely difficult to trace the successive stages in the historical growth of the region. However, it has been suggested that some of the present streams of the district may be identified with those mentioned in early Vedic literature.⁵ The south-eastern Rasa (a stream mentioned in the Rigveda⁶ has been recognised with the Sahibi which passes through the region⁷, and the Dohan

1. Dharampal Singh Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts* (Haryana) MSS Ph. D thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, 1976, p.2.

2. Kurujangala included the Rohtak and Hisar districts of Haryana (V.S. Agarwal, *India as known to Panini*, p. 54, Lucknow, 1953.

3. Suraj Bhan, *Excavation at Mitathal (1968) and Other Explorations in the Sutlej Yamuna Divide*, Kurukshetra 1975, p. 126.

4. Dharampal Singh Punia, *op. cit.*, Chapter on Explorations.

5. M.L. Bhargava, *The Geography of Rigvedic India*, Lucknow, 1964, pp. 45—51.

6. *Rigveda*, 41.5.

7. Bhargava, *op.cit.*, pp. 46-7.

with the Vadhusara mentioned in the *Mahabharata*, which is said to have originated from the tears of Divya Pauloma, the wife of the sage Bhrigu and the mother of famous sage Chavana and to flow past the ashrama of the latter¹. Quite interestingly, the stream still flows through the region near a place known as Chavanasrama, situated on Dhosi hills². The *Mahabharata*³ describes it as a sacred stream with many holy places on its course proving thereby that it might have been a fairly large and important stream in those early days⁴. Similarly the association of the stream Kasaunti or Krishnawati has been suggested with Rigvedic tribe Krishna⁵, who lived in its valley⁶. These identifications if accepted, would at least show the antiquity of the district through which the streams flowed, as far back as the Vedic period. Absence of material remains of early cultures in Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Rewari tahsils may be explained as mainly due to the geographical conditions namely, semi desert, excessive sand dunes, meagre water resources and reduced fertility of the soil.⁷ But at the same time, it is also true that because of these very conditions the region assumed strategic importance during the medieval and late medieval times.

The succeeding stages in the historical growth of the district cannot be traced in the absence of evidence. Possibly it was included in the empire of the Mauryas, the Guptas, the Pushpabhutis and the Gurjara-Pratiharas. The suggestion is, of course, based only on circumstantial evidence for it is very well known that these empires were very extensive and included several districts of Haryana as is also attested to by the archaeological as well as literary evidence.⁸

The district has yielded very meagre evidence for the period from the Mauryas to the end of the Rajput rule covering about one thousand and five hundred years, a very wide gap indeed in the history of the district. What we have at our disposal are some copper coins of the Yaudheyas, a few of the Tomaras, three inscriptions from Gurawada (Rewari tahsil) besides some scattered sculptural remains of gods and goddesses.⁹

1. M.L. Bhargava, *The Geography of Rigvedic India*, Lucknow 1964, PP. 48-9.

2. *Mahabharata, Adiparva*, 6; M.L. Bhargava, *op. cit.*, p. 48.

3. *Mahabharata Vanaparva*, 125.

4. M.L. Bhargava, *The Geography of Rigvedic India*, Lucknow, 1964, p. 49.

5. *Ibid.*, p.p 47-8, 50.

6. *Ibid.*, p. 50-51.

7. D.S. Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts* (Haryana) MSS Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, 1976, pp. 24, 57.

8. For details see—D.S. Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts* (Haryana) MSS Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, 1976, Silak Ram, *Archaeology of Rohtak and Hisar Districts*, 1972, MSS, Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University; Amar Singh, *Archaeology of Karnal and Jind Districts* (Haryana), Ph. D. thesis, 1981, MSS, Kurukshetra University.

9. D.S. Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts* (Haryana) MSS Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, 1976, pp. 153-56, 167, 173, 213, 214, 222, 228, 230, 232-34.

The Yaudheya coins have been recovered from Rewari and are now preserved in the Gurukul Museum, Jhajjar. These show a facing standing Karttikeya, holding spear in right hand with left hand on the hip and a peacock at the left. It contains the legend Yaudheya Ganasya Jayah along with 'dvi' or 'tri'. On their reverse is the figure of a goddess walking to the left with right hand raised and left hand on the hip besides a *nandipada* and a beautiful dotted border all round.¹ These coins, which are very few, do not help historical reconstruction, but only suggest that the tribe which was dominant in the adjoining districts had some influence over this region also.

The three inscriptions are from the village Gurawada, about 20 km north of Rewari. Two of these were found engraved on a rectangular column which possibly formed a part of some temple belonging to 9th—10th century. The inscriptions speak of Viranchandra of meritorious service, entertainer of guests, most beloved of kinsmen, earnestly devoted to his people, of the sun like valour, afflicted by a serious disease, after remembering Lord Vishnu went to the heaven on 12th day of the dark fortnight of Asadha in the year 953 when the water was scant all around. The other inscription too records the same event. Both the inscriptions give the same date without mentioning the era. The script is northern Brahmi and the language is Sanskrit. The third inscription which is also found on a stone pillar mentions Vishnuhari who left his earthly body while engrossed in the thought of Lord Vishnu on the first of the dark fortnight of the month of Bhadrapada of the Saka year 819.² The inscriptions do not provide any detail of the family of the deceased. From the description they appear to be persons of local eminence and devotees of Vishnu. The discovery of these inscriptions together with two Sasasiyi sculptures from the same place clearly proves the prevalence of Vishnu worship in the district.³ The two pillars possibly belonged to some nearby Vishnu temple where the images might have been originally installed.

Of the sculptural remains from the district mention may be made of Sasasiyi Vishnu, Ganesa, Mahisasuramardini Durga and Parvati all from Gurawada (Rewari tahsil) while the Adinatha and Parsvanatha *Tirthankara* images, although of a little later period, are from Narnaul. The Brahmanical images belong to a time bracket from 10th to 12th century A.D. while Jain sculptures to that of 13th—14th century on stylistic grounds. The four armed Lord Vishnu is represented in a reclining pose in the Kshirasagar, the

1. D.S. Punia p. 167. The terms 'dvi', 'tri' on these coins have been variously interpreted by scholars as denoting three tribes, sections, confederating units or their administrative divisions. (A Cunningham, *Coins of Ancient India from earliest times down to the seventh century AD*, London, 1891. J. Allan, *Catalogue of the coins of Ancient India*, (in the British Museum) London, 1936.

2. D.S. Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts (Haryana)* MSS Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, p. 153-156.

3. Ibid.

fragmentary Ganesa sculpture is in blackstone, its pot belly, elephantine face, *ekadanta* and long *surparaka-karna* are well executed; the goddess Durga is beautifully carved in her Mahisasuramardini form, while the goddess Paravati wearing a *jatumukuta* is shown in *lalitsana* in very well ornamented style. Of the two *Tirthankara* images, Adinatha is in meditation pose on a lion's seat, a *dharmachakra* placed between the loins, at the centre of his chest is shown a *Srivatsa* symbol, the hair are curly and all very well arranged. The Parsvanatha image has also similar style excepting that it has a canopy of seven snake hoods over the head.¹ This shows that during the early Sultanate Narnaul was an important centre of Jainism, whether it was so during early period is not known.

The inscriptions and the few fragmentary sculptural remains indicate roughly a period of about four centuries, i.e. from 9th to 12th century when some cultural activity was initiated in the region. It was the period when the Pratiharas, the Tomaras and the Chahamanas were powerful in the adjoining regions. The period also witnessed Muslim invasions as can be explained by the fragmentary condition of architectural and sculptural remains. The tradition has it that at Khole (33 km west of Rewari) there ruled a prince named Dharampala who had built a strong fort at that place. He was defeated by Ibrahim who established Muslim rule over Khole which, however, could not last long for the latter was defeated and slain by Anangapala, the Tomara ruler of Delhi. Remains of a fort complex are still visible at the village site.² Anangapala Tomara is also associated traditionally with the founding of the town of Narnaul where his cousin Raja Laun Karan ruled. The Raja had his seat near the Dhosi hills in the thick forest named *Jhinhervena*.³ The name of the town has been derived differently—*Nahar-Naul* or the 'Forest of tigers' or *Nar Naul* or 'beautiful women' perhaps it contained beautiful women, and *Nag Naul*, after a snake and mongoose who were seen fighting when the city was founded.⁴ The town later on fell in the hands of Rathor Rajputs. It is related that subsequently Hazrat Turkaman who came to India with jewels in one hand and sword in the other fought many a bloody battle with the Rathor Rajputs here.⁵ Part of the district (Rewari

1. D.S. Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts* (Haryana) MSS Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, pp. 213-34.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 107.

3. *Ibid.*, pp. 55, 119.

4. H.B.W. Garrick, *Report of A Tour in the Panjab and Rajputana in 1883-84* (Archaeological Survey of India) Vol. XXIII, p. 27; D.S. Punia, *op. cit.*, pp. 54-5, 119; a Sanskrit inscription of 18th-19th century from Narnaul gives its ancient name as Nandigram (Punia, *op. cit.*, p. 121).

5. H.B.W. Garrick, *Report of A Tour in the Panjab and Rajputana in 1883-84* (Archaeological Survey of India) Vol. XXIII; D.S. Punia, *Archaeology of Mahendragarh and Gurgaon Districts* (Haryana) MSS Ph. D. thesis, Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, p. 120.

tahsil) was included in the Bhandanaka kingdom (which comprised old Gurgaon district, part of Alwar and Bhiwani tahsil).¹ These people are mentioned in literature for the resistance which they offered to the Chahamanas supremacy.² Dr. Buddha Prakash³ has tried to locate their seat at the village Bharawas (7 km south of Rewari) which, however, remains still a conjecture for the site has so far yielded only late-medieval remains in the form of glazed ware and *lakhauri* bricks as also tombs and *sarais* all pointing to a much later date than the period when the Bhadankas lived.

THE MEDIEVAL PERIOD

After the death of Shihab-ud-din Ghuri, one of his generals, Qutb-ud-din Aibak, laid the foundations of the Turkish rule in India in 1206. The territory now comprising the Mahendragarh district though formed a part of his newly founded kingdom, yet he appears to have exercised no effective control over it. Except for creating an administrative agency to collect land revenue effectively, he did not interfere in the internal affairs of the villages. Aibak's successor Iltutmish is, however, reported to have made some far reaching changes which had great impact on the administration. He divided the kingdom into several *Iqtas*: the present district was parcelled into two *Iqtas*, namely, Narnaul and Rewari.⁴ An officer called *Mukti* controlled the total affairs of each *Iqta* under the direct supervision and control of the Sultan.

This arrangement continued upto 1290, when after the deposition of the last of the Mamluk rulers, Shamsuddin, the district came under the control of the Khaljis. The new masters exercised greater and far more strict control over the district than their predecessors. Their economic hold was coercive. As a result, the suffering people grew restive. But the strong hand of the rulers made them ineffective. The situation changed, however, after Ala-ud-Din Khalji's death (1316). The people raised their heads against the oppressive rule. There was some relief for sometime but they were again brought under the same type of rule by the Tughluqs who replaced the Khaljis. The same old story of oppression and exploitation was repeated during the reigns of the first two Tughluqs-Ghias and Muhammad, but Firuz (1351-88) who came after them gave some solace to the suffering masses by reducing taxes and giving other reliefs.

After Firuz's death, the district felt the full force of those intensive

1. Dashratha Sharma, *Early Chauhan Dynasties*, Delhi, 1959, p. 92.

2. Ibid., pp. 59,74 (for Jinapati Suri's account), Bijolia Inscription, *EI*, XXVI, v. 19, page 104; *Kharataragachchha-pattavati* of Jinapala, ed. Jinavijayamuni, Singhi Jaina Granthamala, No. 42, Bombay, 1956, p. 258.

3. Buddha Prakash (Ed.), *Glimpses of Haryana*, Kurukhetra, 1967, pp. 29-32.

4. K.C. Yadav, *Haryana Ka Itihas*, (Hindi), 1981, Vol. II, p. 33.

discords which rent the Delhi Kingdom. As a result, Mahendragarh along with other adjacent territories went out of the control of the Tughluqs. The people over here accepted no body's command and lived in freedom for a long time.¹

The Sayaids after Tughluqs, tried to bring the district under their control, but they also seem to have achieved little success. However, in 1450, Bahlol Lodi, the then Governor of Punjab capitalized on the prevailing situation and brought them under the Lodi sway which lasted (under him and his successors) for a little over 76 years (1450—1526). It was during the rule of the Lodis (Bahlol) that a jagir was given to Ibrahim Khan Sur, the grand father of great Sher Shah near Narnaul with headquarters at a small village named Simla² (Simli). In 1526, Babur, the Mughal invader from Central Asia, wrested the district along with other territories from Ibrahim Lodi.

Soon after establishing his rule in northern India, Babur brought the district under his effective control. He placed a sizeable part of the district under the *sarkar* of Mewat. The rest of the territory was given to one of his faithful officers, Ahsan Taimur, in Jagir.³

Humayun, who succeeded Babur in 1530, seems to have made no change in the existing arrangement. Humayun's rule proved short-lived; he was thrown out by Sher Shah Suri in 1540. Sher Shah had immense liking and love for the land of his birth.⁴ He built a very magnificent mausoleum at Narnaul on the grave of his grand father, Ibrahim.

Sher Shah was an administrative genius. He divided his whole kingdom into sixty six *sarkars*. Mahendragarh came under the *sarkars* of Narnaul and Rewari. Their administration was carried out by two officials, namely, *shiqdar-i-shiqdarn* and *munsif-i-munsifan*. The two *sarkars* were further divided into *parganas*. Unfortunately there is no direct evidence to give the exact number of *parganas* into which the district was then divided, but it is surmised that their number was about six, namely; Rewari, Bawal and Pataudi under Rewari; and Narnaul, Kanaud (modern Mahendragarh) and Kanti under Narnaul. The *parganas* were controlled by *shiqdars*, *munsifs*, and junior officials like *Qanungos*, *Khajanchis*. The smallest unit of administration was village which was administered by the *muqadams*, and *panchayats* with the help of the *patwaris* and *chaukidars*.⁵

Sher Shah ruled for only five years (1540-45). There was peace, pros-

1. In the contemporary literature no reference is made to this region for a pretty long time which suggests that the region had gone out of the hands of the Sultans.

2. K.R. Qanungo, *Sher Shah and His Times*, Bombay, 1965, p. 26.

3. See K.C. Yadav, *Haryana Ka Itihas* (Hindi) 1981, Vol. II, p. 67.

4. Sher Shah was born at Narnaul in 1486. See K.C. Yadav 'Sher Shah Suri Ka Janmasthan', *Journal of Haryana Studies*, Vol. IX (1977), pp. 50-52.

5. For more details see K.C. Yadav, *op. cit.*, p. 69.

perity and tranquillity everywhere during his rule. He was succeeded by pigmies who brought chaos and confusion. The Mughal emperor, Humayun, took advantage of the situation, and wrested his lost kingdom. In consequence, the district again came under the Mughal sway (1555). But the very next year Humayun was no more on the scene; and once again there was confusion all around.

At this juncture, a remarkable local noble appeared on the scene. He was Hemchandra (popularly called Hemu), a resident of Rewari. He had a very humble origin, but by dint of his ability and sheer strength of character, he rose up to lofty heights. Islam Shah, the Sur King of Delhi (1553) developed a special liking for him and gave him high rank in his court. His successor, Adil Shah, went still further, he entrusted him with all his powers and functions. Hemu did not betray the trust reposed in him by the Sur potentate; he defended the falling fortunes of the Sur empire, by fighting as many as twenty-two battles against the enemies of the Surs and defeated them.

When Akbar came to occupy his paternal throne, Hemu gave him tough opposition. Agra and Delhi, the two strong Mughal fortresses collapsed like a house of cards at the very first knock of Hemu. He was equally strong at Panipat where Akbar himself stood in opposition on 5 November, 1556. Riding "proudly on an elephant named 'Hawai', he (Hemu) showed every stratagem which his powerful capacity could conceive...." Abul Fazl admits. "He made powerful onslaughts and performed many valourous acts and dislodged many strenuous soldiers of the sublime army."¹ Hemu's men, too, fought well. They were in a better position to begin with, but fate had something else for them in store. "Suddenly in the midst of the contest", says Abul Fazl, "an arrow reached Hemu's eye and piercing the socket came out at the back of his head."² He collapsed in the *howdah* and Akbar won the battle of Panipat.

Akbar divided his Empire into several provinces, provinces into *sarkars* and *sarkars* into *mahals*. The villages were, like the earlier times, the smallest units of administration. The administrative picture of the district based on the *Ain-i-Akbari* was as given in table below :³

	Subah	Sarkar	Mahals
Mahendragarh district	Delhi	Rewari	1. Rewari
			2. Bawal
	Agra	Narnaul	1. Kanaud
			2. Kanti
			3. Khudang
			4. Narnaul

1. Abul Fazl, *Akbar-nama*, (Eng. Tr. Haveridge). 1912, Vol. II, p. 64.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 65.

3. Abul Fazl, *Ain-i-Akbari* (Eng. Tr. H.S. Jarret), 1949, Vol. II, pp. 291-310.

The *Ain-i-Akbari* does not give the number of villages in different *mahals* or in an aggregate.

The administrative machinery that controlled the villages, *mahals* and *sarkars* was almost of the same type as was found in this region in the time of Sher Shah.

This administrative set up remained intact during the reigns of 'Akbar's successors—Jahangir (1605—1627), Shahjahan (1627—1658), and Aurangzeb (1658—1707). There was peace and tranquillity all around except of course in the reign of the last named king. His economic exploitation and religious harassment led the Satnamis of Narnaul to challenge his authority.

The Satnamis were a peaceful sect believing in the unity of God, mostly employed in agriculture. They were honest, industrious and formed a brotherhood calling themselves Satnamis, Satnam means good name.

In 1672, a petty quarrel near Narnaul between a Satnami cultivator and a Mughal foot-soldier of the local revenue collector led to the rebellion. The high-handedness of the soldier was too much for them to bear and the wrangling soon developed into a religious war against the Mughals. The Satnamis defeated the imperialists on several occasions and took possession of the town and district of Narnaul. When these alarming news reached the emperor, he sent there a large force under Radanaz Khan, equipped with artillery. The Satnamis fought with courage and determination but could not succeed against the well-organised and well-equipped Mughal force. Two thousand men of this sect fell fighting on the field and many of them were killed during the pursuit. The rebellion was thus crushed and the affected areas brought under control.¹

After Aurangzeb's death (1707), the position changed drastically. The mountebanks and imbeciles who sat on the Mughal throne after the last of the great Mughals, failed to check the forces of chaos and confusion that were let loose at that time. In consequence, the people became disorderly all around and refused to pay revenue. Their villages which were nothing short of fortresses surrounded by mud walls could only be reduced by artillery and huge force which the local authority could not always muster.

This situation further worsened when Nadir Shah launched a fierce attack on India in 1739. Nadir was checked at Karnal, where a fierce battle was fought. Balkrishan, the Rao of Rewari, who fought heroically at the head of an army of 5,000 strong, was killed in this battle. Nadir, the victor, praised the late Rao's heroic deeds.²

1. R.C. Majumdar (Ed.), *The History and Culture of the Indian People, The Mughal Empire*, 1974, pp. 236-37.

2. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika*, (Urdu), 1900, Delhi, p. 110.

After Nadir's retreat from India, chaos and confusion which spread to every nook and corner of the Mughal empire held the district in its dark fold. Many ambitious powers came in the field to make capital of the prevailing situation. They occupied the territory showing the least regard for the imperial authority and the entire territory became dotted with small principalities of these, the Raos of Rewari were the most powerful and dominating.

The state of Rewari was carved out of a jungle-jagir by Ruda Singh, a Yadav noble from Tijara, who obtained it in 1555 from the Mughal Emperor Humayun for rendering meritorious services during the latter's encounter with the Surs.¹ Ruda Singh had his headquarters located at Bolni, a small village, 12 km south-east of Rewari. He cleared the jungle and founded new villages.²

Ruda Singh was succeeded by his son, Ram Singh, popularly known as Ramoji. His estate was infested with dacoits and freebooters who had created chaos and confusion everywhere. Ram Singh built a fort at Bolni and employed a small force of cavalry and infantry. He was a fearless warrior and after a long and hard struggle succeeded in extirpating the criminals. Two of these notorious dacoits, who had carried on the depredations to the very gate of the imperial capital were sent to Emperor Akbar. Pleased with the daring action, the emperor appointed Ram Singh as *faujdar* of the *sarkar* of Rewari in the *subah* of Delhi.³ Ram Singh is said to have witnessed the reigns of Akbar and Jahangir, while his son and successor, Shahbaz Singh, was a contemporary of Shah Jahan and Aurangzeb. The latter Rao was a great warrior who died fighting against a daring robber of notoriety, Hathi Singh, a Badgujar Rajput of Dhana, now known as Badshahpur.⁴

Shahbaz Singh was succeeded by his eldest son, Nand Ram. He retained the confidence of Emperor Aurangzeb who confirmed him in his jagir and granted him the title of Chaudhari.⁵ He founded the villages of Nandrapur and Dharuhera near Rewari, laid out gardens and tanks, and built a palatial residence for himself in the heart of the town of Rewari to which

1. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika* Urdu (1900) Delhi, p.105, Krishnanand Khedkar, *the Divine Heritage of the Yadavas*, pp. 192-93; Krishnanand, *Ahir Itihas*, p.270. K.C. Yadav, 'History of the Rewari State 1555-1857; *Journal of the Rajasthan Historical Research Society*, Vol. I (1965), p. 21.

2. Man Singh, *op. cit.*, 1900. pp. 105-6.

3. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika*, (Urdu), 1900, Delhi p. 106, Krishnanand Khedkar, *The Divine Heritage of the Yadavas*, p. 193. The *sarkar* of Rewari as described by Abul Fazi (*Ain-i- Akbari*, Vol. II, p. 298) comprised 12 *Mahals* of Bawal, Pataudi Bhora, Tauru, Rewari, Ratai, Kotkasim, Ghelot and Nimrana. Its forces consisted of 2,175 cavalry and 14,600 infantry.

4. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika*, (Urdu), 1900, Delhi, p. 106.

5. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910 (on p. 20) says : "In the time of Aurangzeb... Nand Ram rose into royal favour and was made governor of the pargana of Rewari".

place he shifted his headquarters from Bolni. A tank at Rewari called Nand-sagar still bears his memory¹.

The robber Hathi Singh was taken into service by the famous chief of Bharatpur, and Hathi Singh's rising power was intolerable to Nand Ram and his brother Man Singh. The latter, in collaboration with his brother, secretly put the notorious dacoit to death at Agra, and thus avenged the death of his father². Nand Ram died in 1713. He was succeeded by his eldest son Balkishan.

Balkishan was in the military service of Aurangzeb and as stated above, he fell in the battle of Karnal on 24th February, 1739 while fighting against Nadir Shah. Muhammad Shah was so much impressed with the Rao's bravery and heroism that on Nadir's departure he granted to Balkishan's brother Gujar Mal the title of Rao Bahadur and Commander of five thousand. His territories were largely increased by the addition of 52 villages in the district of Hisar, and the same number in the district of Narnaul. His jagir then included the important towns of Rewari, Jhajjar, Dadri, Hansi, Hisar, Kanaud and Narnaul³. In 1743, he received a few more villages worth Rs. 2,00,578.

Rao Gujar Mal's two bitterest enemies were the Baluch chief of Farrukhnagar and Bahadur Singh of Ghasera, a descendant of Hathi Singh who was now acting independently of Suraj Mal, the Jat Raja of Baharatpur. Gujar Mal counteracted their malicious designs by attaching himself with Raja Suraj Mal. Gujar Mal was also on friendly terms with Bahadur Singh's father-in-law Todar Mal of village Nimrana. The latter invited Gujar Mal to his residence and there killed him under pressure of Bahadur Singh in 1750.⁴ In him (Gujar Mal) power of his family reached its culminating point. He erected forts at Gurawada and Gokulgarh, near Rewari.⁵ At Gokulgarh what were popularly known as "Gokul Sikka" rupees were minted.⁶ He founded the villages of Brahanpur and Morna in Meerut *pargana*, Ramgarh, Jitpur and Srinagar in Rewari *pargana*, built large houses at Rewari, Gokulgarh and Digal (Jhajjar *pargana*); and built his father's tomb at Rewari and a tank near it.⁷

1. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika*, (Urdu) 1900, Delhi p. 107.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 108.

3. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika*, (Urdu), 1900, Delhi p. 110; Krishnanand Khedkar, *The Divine Heritage of the Yadavas*, p. 193.

4. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika*, (Urdu) 1900, Delhi p. 110.

5. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 21.

6. "These coins (of Gujar Mal)", says Khedkar (*The Divine Heritage of the Yadavas* p. 193)" are still extant in these districts."

7. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika* (Urdu), 1900, Delhi, pp. 113-14.

Gujar Mal was succeeded by his son Bhawani Singh. He was lazy and careless. In consequence, his estates began to dwindle rapidly. Baluch Nawab of Farrukhnagar, the Nawab of Jhajjar and the Raja of Jaipur encroached upon his territory, and he was left in possession of 23 villages only.

Bhawani Singh was killed in 1758 by his own manager, Tulsi Ram, who in turn was done away with shortly afterwards. Tulsi Ram's son Mittar Sain succeeded to the post of the manager under the next chief Ram Singh. Mittar Sain helped the Mughals against Jaipur in 1780. Najaf Quli, Begum Samru and Mittar Sain attacked and plundered Narnaul on 5 February. On 14th February, 400 men of the garrison made a sortie and attacked the trenches of Mittar Sain Ahir inflicting a hundred casualties.¹ To retaliate, the Jaipur rulers attacked Rewari in the early months of 1781; and in the conflict both sides suffered heavy losses. In 1785, a Maratha expedition to Rewari was repelled. Shortly afterwards Mittar Sain passed away. The Marathas invaded again, killed most of the members of the Mittar Sain's family and sacked the town. Rao Ram Singh died fighting.²

The next chief, Hira Singh, was a worthless fellow, and the real control of affairs fell into the hands of a local trader Zauki Ram.³ The famous Maratha general, Mahadji Sindhia stayed at Rewari in 1787, apparently to regulate the affairs and collect money from here. On Mahadji's departure a rebel courtier of Delhi, Najaf Quli Khan occupied the fort of Gokulgarh, three kilometres north of Rewari.⁴ Emperor Shah Alam II marched from Delhi to punish the refractory chief. The Emperor encamped at Bharawas, eight kilometres south of Rewari. Begum Samru was with the Emperor. On 12 March, 1788, Najaf Quli inflicted heavy losses on the Mughals in a night attack. But Begum Samru's artillery proved effective and compelled Najaf Quli to sue for peace.⁵

Zauki Ram's supremacy was intolerable to many. At this juncture, Tej Singh, a relative of the Raos of Rewari⁶ and the ruler of Tauru came to the front. He was supporter of the Marathas who granted him the *parganas* of Tauru, Sohna, Nuh, Hodal, Palwal, Tapukara, Kot Kasim, Pataudi and Bawal, all of the value of Rs. 25 lakh annually.⁷ He fixed his head-quarters at Tauru. Being appealed to by the mother of Ram Singh, he attacked Rewari, slew Zauki Ram and established his own power.

1. Jadunath Sarkar, *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. III, 1964, p. 140.

2. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika* (Urdu), 1900, Delhi p. 123.

3. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 21.

4. Jadunath Sarkar, *Fall of the Mughal Empire*, Vol. III, 1964, pp. 272-282.

5. *Ibid.*, pp. 292-93.

6. He was descended from a branch of the same stock as that of Gujar Mal which had settled at Mirpur in the Rewari *Pargana*. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 21.

7. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika* (Urdu), 1900, Delhi p. 123; Krishnanand Khedkar, *The Divine Heritage of the Yadavas*, p. 193.

To control the state of Rewari properly Tej Singh appointed his four brothers in four frontier villages of Lisan, Dharuhera, Asiaki and Nangal Pathani.¹ Tej Singh built a fine house in the mud fort of Rampura, 2 kilometres west of Rewari and a tank in Rewari at the site of Idgah, a villa in his paternal village of Mirpur, a camp house in Mohalla Shah Tara in Ajmeri Gate, Delhi, two camp houses at Mathura and Benaras, and established three new streets at Rewari called Banjiwara, Tejpura and Bazar Kalan.²

Lord Lake defeated Daulat Rao Sindhia in September, 1803 and captured Delhi and a large part of the territory lying between the river Yamuna and the Ghaggar. Thus, Rewari and the whole estate of Tej Singh was forcibly taken possession of by the British East India Company. Tej Singh was allowed to retain 58 villages only in perpetuity.³ The *parogana* of Bhora was given to Tej Singh's brother Ram Bakhsh, who lived at Dharuhera. In 1808—09, all these villages were settled by Fraser, the Magistrate of Delhi.⁴

Tej Singh died in 1823, when his property was divided among his three sons, Puran Singh, Nathu Ram and Jawahar Singh.⁵ The youngest brother Jawahar Singh died childless and his estate was equally divided between remaining brothers, Puran Singh and Nathu Ram. On their death their estates were inherited by their respective sons Tula Ram and Gopal Dev.⁶ Tula Ram and Gopal Dev staked everything and played a significant role in throwing off the British yoke in 1857. This, as noted below, cost them their estates.

THE MODERN PERIOD

In 1750's like the Raos of Rewari, Raja Madho Singh of Jaipur seized a sizeable territory in the district around Narnaul and Kanaud.⁷ He placed the territory under the care of Balwant Singh. In the mid-decade the district passed under the sway of the Marathas. The Raos of Rewari, as noted above, opposed them for a while but ultimately accepted the Maratha overlordship. The Rajput chief accepted this position without any opposition. Maratha overlordship of the district proved short-lived, however, as situation elsewhere compelled them to leave this territory in 1755.⁸

1. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 21.

2. Man Singh, *Abhirkuladipika* (Urdu), 1900, Delhi p. 123; Krishnanand Khedkar, *The Divine Heritage of the Yadavas*, p. 75.

3. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 21.

4. For a detailed account of this settlement see *Punjab Government Records*, Vol. I, *Delhi Agency and Residency Records*, 1805-1857.

5. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 25 File R/194, 267-69 (State Archives, Patiala).

6. File R/194, 267-69 (Punjab State Archives, Patiala).

7. K.C. Yadav, *Haryana Ka Itihas*, (Hindi), 1981, Vol. II, p. 98.

8. *Ibid.*, p. 99.

There was no development worth mentioning for the next fifteen years. But in 1771 there came Mirza Najaf Khan, who saved the falling fortunes of the Mughal empire as its Prime Minister by re-establishing his authority over the lost territories around the imperial capital. First he brought the Raos of Rewari under his control. Then he seized the Narnaul—Kanaud tract from the Rajputs and placed it in the charge of his trusted noble Najaf Quli.¹ This man proved to be a successful administrator and controlled the affairs of this region for well over two decades though his position had considerably weakened after his master's death in 1782.

In 1792, the Maratha chief Mahadji Sindhia succeeded in snatching the district from his rebel General Ismail Beg² and placed it under his direct control.³ This arrangement continued until 1803 when Mahadji's successor Daulat Rao Sindhia handed over the district alongwith other districts to the British East India Company by the treaty of Sarji Arjungaon.⁴ The new masters (the British) did not take the district under their control; they gave it to the local chiefs instead. Most of the Rewari—Bawal territory was given, as noted above to Tej Singh, a scion of the Raos of Rewari⁵ as an *istamarari* grant and the Narnaul—Kanaud tract was made a part of the Jhajjar State.⁶

The Jhajjar State, as noted above, was created by the British and was given to Nawab Nizabat Ali Khan, a Baharaich Pathan in 1806, for his meritorious services during the Anglo—Maratha War of 1803. Abdur Rehman who succeeded in 1845 was Nawab of Jhajjar in 1857 when there was an uprising. Although he did not play any positive role, yet his subjects rose *en masse*. The British, however, doubted his integrity and hanged him. His state was confiscated and the Narnaul—Kanaud tract was given to Maharaja of Patiala.

The British rule of about half a century from 1803 to 1857, produced a great deal of discontent and disaffection among almost every section of the people throughout Haryana. The Mahendragarh district was no exception to this; right from the chiefs to the lowest man over here was unhappy with the rule of British East India Company. In other words, the ground for a general uprising against the British lay prepared in the district. It only required a spark for the bursting forth of a conflagration. This was provided by the sepoys on 10th May, 1857 at Ambala and Meerut.

1. This work was done by Najaf Quli Khan, a trusted general of Mirza Najaf Khan in 1773. See *Ibid.*, pp. 122-23.

2. K.C. Yadav, *Haryana Ka Itihas* (Hindi), 1981, Vol. II, pp. 129-30.

3. Mahadji placed the Gurgaon-Rewari-Narnaul-Kanaud tract in the Mewat district. Three other districts were Hisar, Panipat and Delhi. See *Ibid.*, pp. 130-31.

4. Aitchison C.V., *Collection of Treaties, Engagements and Sanads*, 1870, Vol. IV, pp. 42-46.

5. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 21.

6. See Aitchison, *op. cit.*, Vol. VIII, pp. 126-27.

On hearing the news of the happenings at these two places and Delhi, the people of the district rose up in revolt. In the Rewari area, lead was given by Rao Tula Ram. His cousin Gopal Dev also stood by him. As seen above, the forefathers of the Raos had helped the Marathas in 1803 in their fight against the British and as a result when the latter came out successful in the struggle, they confiscated their jagir and gave instead an *istamarari* grant of about 58 villages. This was a great blow to the Raos which shattered their position and made them unhappy with British Raj.

On 17 May, 1857, the Raos went to the tahsil headquarters at Rewari with four to five hundred followers and deposed the tahsildar and thanedar. They appropriated the cash from the tahsil treasury, took all the government buildings in their possession and proclaimed, under the sanction of Emperor Bahadur Shah, their rule over the pargana of Rewari, Bhora and Shahjahanpur. For their headquarters, they chose Rampura, a small fortified village, one mile south-west of Rewari. Tula Ram, the elder Rao became Raja and Gopal Dev his commander-in-chief.¹

After assuming charge, Tula Ram organised the revenue department and collected revenue and taxes. He took donations and loans from the mahajans of Rewari. He raised a force (about five thousand men) and set up a large workshop in the fort of Rampura where a substantial number of guns, gun-carriages, and other small arms and ammunition were manufactured. The Rao enforced law and order and defended his State from outside attacks.²

These activities pleased Bahadur Shah and he confirmed Rao Tula Ram in his jagirs of Rewari, Bhora and Shahjahanpur. Tula Ram, in return, rendered all possible help to Emperor Bahadur Shah and those revolvers waging war against the British in Delhi. He sent Rs. 45,000 through General Bakht Khan at such a critical time when non-payment of the salaries to the sepoy had caused great insecurity and anxiety, though this small sum did not improve the situation. The Rao also supplied the Delhi forces with large quantities of necessary commodities.³

But this help could not protect Delhi which fell to the British on September 20, 1857. Soon after Brigadier-General Showers led out a column (from Delhi) of 1,500 men with a light field battery, 18 two-pounder guns and two small mortars, "to attack and destroy Rao Tula Ram and his followers and to raze his fort (at Rewari)." The column had light skirmish with some Rewari—*sowars* on October 5 at Pataudi, 37 miles from Delhi. In the

1. See K.C. Yadav, *The Revolt of 1857 in Haryana*, 1977, p. 59.

2. *Ibid.* p. 59.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 59-60.

words of Hodson, who accompanied the column : "They fired at our advance and bolted at speed." The column's next attack was direct on Rewari which was still held by Rao Tula Ram. The situation was serious and the Rao foresaw that a fight with the British forces in the mud fort of Rampura, in the changed circumstances after the fall of Delhi, would result in the complete destruction of his army without any serious loss to the British. So he left his fort before Showers' arrival.

The British column reached Rewari on October 6. The fort of Rewari (Rampura) was taken without any opposition. Immediately after the occupation of the fort of Rewari, Brigadier-General Showers sent a messenger to Tula Ram telling him that if he submitted alongwith guns and arms, he would be treated on merits. But Tula Ram turned down the inducement.¹

Showers stayed at Rewari for a week and settled the villages around it. On October 12, he left for Jatusana where some horsemen of the Nawab of Jhajjar had collected. These *sowars* had no nerve to oppose the column and they surrendered without resistance. Next, going via Kosli, Ladain, Matanhail, the column reached Chuchhakwas (about 10 miles from Jhajjar), the hunting resort of the Nawab of Jhajjar, on October 16.²

The British forces moved speedily towards Kanaud. They halted for a while at Nahar, 30 miles from Jhajjar, where they were joined by other forces. Here a party of revoltors from Jhajjar and Delhi attacked them but they were soon defeated. The revoltors lost 40 of their men, 50 cavalry horses and a few nine-pounder guns.³

A word about happenings in the Narnaul-Kanaud tract was spread. As noted above, the Nawab Abdur Rehman Khan of Jhajjar beneath whose control this tract was, did not play any positive role. But his father-in-law (and General) Samad Khan did a great job. He gave inspiring lead to the people who rose up *en masse* against the British. The people of the Narnaul Kanaud tract in no way lagged behind their fellow campatriots.

At Chhuchhakwas, Showers contacted Nawab of Jhajjar and asked him to surrender. He was arrested later, tried and hanged.

Showers next asked his forces to proceed to Kanaud. The arrest of the Nawab had demoralizing effect on the garrison stationed there. It was for this reason that the British forces captured one of the strongest, best planned and best kept forts in India without firing a shot. Fourteen heavy guns, one 8-inch mortar, two 6-pounder guns and a large quantity of small

1. K.C. Yadav, *The Revolt of 1857 in Haryana*, 1977, p. 113.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 114.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 114.

arms and ammunition fell in their hands.¹ Besides that, the Nawab's treasure amounting to five lakh of rupees was also seized. Leaving Capt. Tozer in command of the garrison (comprising a wing of the 23rd Punjab Infantry and men of Tohana Horse) Showers left for Delhi via Rewari, Farrukhnagar, Ballabgarh, Taoru and Sohna on October 22.²

But despite all these apparently impressive gains, the Brigadier-General's campaign could hardly be called successful: he had failed to realize his main aim that of capturing Tula Ram or General Abdus Samad Khan of Jhajjar, who had acted as nucleus of revolt in the district. Conversely, the attack of Showers came as a blessing in disguise to these persons—they left their respective places on Showers' approach and moved into the northern Rajasthan where they met a rebel force, the Jodhpur Legion from Rajasthan and formed a junction with it. Then they marched to Rewari and reoccupied it. But strategically speaking, Rewari was not a good place to camp, so they abandoned it in the first week of November and occupied Narnaul.³

The British authorities at Delhi were alarmed by these developments. They sent a strong column comprising about 1,500 strong under Colonel Gerrard, an officer of conspicuous merit on November 10, 1857. The column reached Rewari three days later. They occupied the abandoned fort of Rampura. Here they were joined by two squadrons of the Carabineers.⁴

After a few days rest at Rewari (Rampura), Col. Gerrard proceeded to Narnaul via Kanaud and reached there in the evening. In the night he was joined by the Haryana Field Force. On November 16, Gerrard marched to Narnaul. As the track was sandy, the column reached Nasibpur, a small village, two miles north-west of Narnaul and halted for a short rest.

The rebel force, having abandoned their strong fort in the centre of the town pounced on them. Rao Tula Ram's first charge was irresistible and the British forces scattered before them. The Patiala Infantry and the Multani Horse on the British left were completely disheartened. The whole of the right flank fled. But at this juncture, the Guides and the Carabineers came to their rescue and saved the situation.⁵

The English fire, especially of the artillery was too much for the revolters. The Guides and the Carabineers, under the cover of the artillery fire, made a heavy attack. Next, the 1st Bengal Fusilliers, swooping upon the weak revolters artillery, captured some of their guns. This encouraged the British cavalry on the right and they pressed through the Indian ranks and successfully overpowered them on right and in the centre.⁶

1. K.C. Yadav, *The Revolt of 1857 in Haryana*, 1977, p. 115.

2. *Ibid.*, p. 116.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 117.

4. *Ibid.*, pp. 117-118.

5. *Ibid.*, p. 118.

But soon the situation took an unexpected turn when Col. Gerrard, the British Commandant, was mortally wounded by a musket ball, with the result that the British troops were demoralised. Taking full advantage of the circumstances, Rao Tula Ram swooped down upon them. The British could not stand the charge and the Multani Horse fled away in bewilderment. They recaptured their guns and inflicted heavy losses on the enemy. The right and the left wings of the British forces were thrown into confusion.¹

Appreciating the gravity of the situation, Major Caulfield, the officiating British Commandant, ordered his artillery to start heavy bombardment and his cavalry and infantrymen to charge straight on with full force into their front ranks. Rao Tula Ram's forces fought back furiously and stood their grounds. The British artillery fire, nevertheless, broke their backbone and split their forces into two parts—one engaged in the close quarter battle and the other fleeing to go out of the range of the British guns. Meanwhile, Kishan Singh and Ram Lal, the two best commanders, received musket shots and died. This disheartened Rao Tula Ram's forces and they retreated.²

The British resumed advance until they came to a dry bed of a stream flowing between Nasibpur and Narnaul. The British guns were unable to cross the stream owing to sand, so they diverged to the right and took up a position near the Horse Artillery guns, whilst the 23rd Panjab Infantry and Patiala Infantry with other units of the cavalry crossed the stream and advanced towards the camp.³

The heavy artillery and infantry fire confused Rao Tula Ram; and they ran pell-mell in all directions. Mostly, they retreated to the town and hid in the buildings. The pursuit of the fleeing soldiers was quick and inexorable, and they were very soon driven out of the town after a little fighting. Rao Tula Ram lost the day and, when the sun went down, there remained none in Narnaul except heaps of corpses here and there. Though Tula Ram and Abdus Samad Khan escaped, Rao Kishan Singh, Ram Lal, Samad Khan's son and many other top-ranking officers were killed in action. The British captured nine guns and other arms. The total loss on the British side was 70 killed and 45 wounded. They lost their commander, Col. Gerrard and Capt. Wallace, while Lieutenants Graije, Kennedy and Pearse were severely wounded.⁴

The battle of Narnaul was undoubtedly one of the most decisive battles of the Uprising of 1857. The English felt jubilant over their success in this confrontation, for it resulted in the complete rout of all the revolters, and thus

1. K.C. Yadav, *The Revolt of 1857 in Haryana*, 1977, p. 118-19.

2. *Ibid.*, p.119.

3. *Ibid.*, p. 119.

4. *Ibid.*, p. 119.

marked the close of the crucial period of the struggle in the Haryana region and northern Rajasthan.

After the battle, Tula Ram moved into Rajasthan ; then joined Tantya Toppe's forces for one year. After the British proclamation of promising unconditional pardon, amnesty and oblivion to all offences against the British to all except those who directly or indirectly took part in the murder of British subjects (issued on November 1, 1858), he sent a petition to the Governor-General, Lord Canning, on December 24, 1858. He stated that he considered himself "an offender, but as he looked upto the government as his protector, he begged to solicit that an inquiry might be directed to be instituted and that he as well as his followers be pardoned." He was refused pardon for he was chief instigator and prime mover of revolt. He therefore, left India in 1862. He went to Iran; then to Afghanistan in the winter of 1862, where he died of dysentery at Kabul on 23 September 1863 at a young age of 38.¹

His cousin Gopal Dev also fled from Narnaul and took asylum with one of his relatives at Udairamsar, a village in Bikaner State. He stayed there in perfect secrecy for four years. Offers of surrender were made to him through his friends by the Deputy Commissioner of Gurgaon but he shunned all enquiries. In consequence, his jagir of 41 villages was confiscated. He died in 1862.²

With the end of the revolt, the vengeance of the British started. Hundreds of people were hanged or shot dead and their villages burnt. Rao Tula Ram and Gopal Dev, as noted above, were dispossessed of their jagirs. The Nawab of Jhajjar was hanged and the part of his State which now constituted the Mahendragarh district was given to the two loyal chiefs of Patiala and Nabha ; the former getting Narnaul and Kanaud Nizamat and the latter Bawal Nizamat.³

For quite some time after the Uprising, the people of Mahendragarh suffered a great deal : obviously the spirit of vengeance on the part of the victors was working there. They were denied almost all the benefits of the Raj as a consequence of which they became backward in all respects.

This condition was not to remain for long, however. In the last decade of the preceding century, as elsewhere, the winds of change began to blow here also. With the spread of western education, urbanization and technoeconomic changes, the people, especially the town-dwelling middle classes were influenced. The attempts of Arya Samaj were most significant in this

1. K.C. Yadav, *Rao Tula Ram : A Hero of 1857*.
2. *Ibid*, p.147.
3. K.C. Yadav, *The Revolt of 1857 in Haryana 1977*, p. 122.

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direction; the main credit for which goes to Rao Yudhista Singh, a scion of the erstwhile ruling house of Rewari who invited Swami Dayananda, the founder of the Arya Samaj to Rewari in 1880. Through his efforts, a Samaj was established here.¹

The followers of Arya Samaj brought political awakening to the people in the district, especially in the Rewari region. As a result, they started taking interest in public life. Some people also joined the Indian National Congress. It may, however, be pointed out here that the Congress activities here were restricted to a limited number of people belonging to the urban middle classes only. To the villages the 'new wind' was yet to go.²

In 1914 came the First World War, which was by all means a big event. The people of Mahendragarh, as those of other districts in Haryana, came to the help of the government in its war efforts by men, money and material. Young men from villages enlisted themselves in the army. The rich contributed liberally to the War Fund and the War Loan. Bihari Lal of Rewari and Jagan Nath of Gurawada who contributed Rs. 65,000 and Rs. 55,000 respectively and topped the list.³ The states' people also made substantial contribution through their Rajas.

After the war, a few rich town-dwellers and big zamindars from the villages received jagirs and other benefits for their war services. The village youth, hundreds of whom had offered their blood during the war were discharged from army after the conclusion of the war. The working classes and poor people residing in the towns and villages suffered on account of economic depression and sufferings that came after the war. In consequence, there was discontent and disaffection all around. Mahatma Gandhi found great opportunity in this, and launched an All-India agitation when the Government wanted to pass the Rowlatt Bills in 1919.

The discontented and disaffected masses of the Rewari area took part in the Rowlatt agitation. Protest meetings were held at Rewari and other big villages in which strongly worded resolutions were passed against the bills. The government took no note of the protests and passed in March, 1919, one of the bills called the Criminal Law Emergency Powers Act. The Congressmen of Rewari area were furious when they heard about it. They observed hartal at Rewari and other places, took out processions and held meetings opposing the Act. After the arrest of Mahatma Gandhi at Palwal (April 10), and then Jallianwala Bagh tragedy (April 13), the movement reached a high pitch.⁴

1. K.C. Yadav, *Haryana Ka Itihas* (Hindi), 1981. Vol. III, pp. 121-23.

2. The people in the Princely States were even worse than their village counterparts elsewhere.

3. M.S. Leigh, *The Punjab and the War*, p. 123.

4. Meetings were held in the towns and people were exhorted to join the movement. The response was good. *The Tribune*, June 12, 1921.

After August 1, 1920, when Mahatma Gandhi launched the Non-Cooperation Movement, the struggle became still more intense. Several persons offered themselves for satyagraha. Many students left schools and some lawyers boycotted courts. The Swadeshi Movement also gained momentum.

On the whole, the movement progressed well. In February, 1922, when Mahatma Gandhi withdrew the movement after violence at Chauri-Chaura (Bihar), it came to a grinding halt here also.

As elsewhere, the withdrawal of the Non-Cooperation Movement gave a sort of setback to the national movement in the district. The Congressmen were divided into two camps: (i) Swarajists who wanted to give up non-cooperation (also called pro-changers) and (ii) Non-cooperationists (non-changers). In the Rewari area the former were in great majority. They left non-cooperation and took part in elections of 1923, 1925, 1926 and 1930. The Hindu Maha Sabha was a big force and surpassed the Unionists and the Swarajists.¹

In 1930, the Civil Disobedience Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi. The movement bestirred the nation and the Rewari area was no exception. Satyagraha *sabhas* were formed and volunteers were recruited and they went to jail after breaking salt laws. The movement was launched on April 22, 1930 when the Rewari Congress Committee organised a large meeting and made salt openly. In second week of May, 1930 the 'Mutiny' (1857) Week' was also celebrated here. The government arrested prominent leaders to crush the movement. There were indiscriminate *lathi* charges at a number of places, especially on picketers of liquor shops, etc. The Congress organisation was declared unlawful. Despite all this, however, the struggle went on unabated (except for a brief halt in 1933) till 1933, when Mahatma Gandhi withdrew it and turned it into an individual satyagraha.

The withdrawal of the Civil Disobedience movement gave a set-back to the nationalist effort. The Hindu Maha Sabha became popular and it won the Rewari seat to the Punjab Assembly in the General Elections of 1937.

These were bad days for the Congress, as also for the national movement. Subhas Chandra Bose, the then President of the Congress visited Haryana and tried to put life into the organisation. This certainly gave morale boost-up to the local Congressmen and they became a little active. After some time there came the World War-II. As elsewhere, the Congressmen in the area opposed the war efforts of the government. The movement started at a low key, but by 1942 everything warmed up, when the British were asked

1. K.C. Yadav, *Elections in Punjab, 1920-47*, 1981.

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 74-97.

to quit India at once. The government action was equally strong. As elsewhere, the Congress organisation was declared unlawful here; and its leaders were arrested. Yet the people came out to fight. Several of them offered satyagraha. There were some violent activity also. As a result of the arrest of leaders and heavy repressive measures adopted by the government, the movement failed.

As at home, the people of the district made sacrifices to the cause of national freedom outside India also. A large number of soldiers from here joined the Indian National Army (INA) and fought against the British forces under the leadership of Subhas Chandra Bose. Though the INA lost the war, its soldiers when they came to the villages after their release, gave great boost to the Congress activities and the national movement. As a result, the social base of the freedom struggle enhanced a great deal.

What the Congress did in the Rewari area, the Praja Mandal did in the region under the princely states. The people of the Mahendragarh Nizamat were also subjected to great economic exploitation by their ruler. To improve their lot some enlightened people formed a Praja Mandal in the Nizamat in 1938.¹ Soon [its branches were opened in towns and villages. Narnaul was the most active branch of the Praja Mandal.

The Patiala ruler did not like the behaviour of his subjects indulging in such anti-state activities. He warned the people but Praja Mandal did not listen to him and launched a movement. Public meetings were organised to voice grievances. During the Quit India Movement (1942) the Praja Mandal also gained momentum. The Maharaja warned the people to leave the path of agitation but they kept up their struggle². Meantime, some revolutionaries also came in the field and joined the movement. The revolutionaries were, however, arrested before they could execute their plans because an accidental explosion exposed them to the authorities. As a result of frantic efforts on the part of the police, about 18 persons were arrested. The masses got agitated over the arrest of these persons. There was a lot of reaction in the town of Narnaul. People observed hartal and demanded release of the arrested persons. The leaders of the Praja Mandal capitalized on this situation and started their agitation with greater gusto. As a result, hundreds of people came up to offer arrests. The situation became grim. Ultimately, the ruler yielded before popular pressure: all the arrested persons were released and most of their demands were accepted.

1. K.C. Yadav, *Haryana Mein Swatantrata Andolan Ka Itihas*, (Hindi) 1975, pp. 173-74.

2. *Ibid.*, pp. 175-76.

In Bawal area which was a part of Nabha State, the condition of the people was bad: the authorities used to take 'begar' and levied exorbitant taxes on the people. Educational, medical and other facilities were denied to them. In the 1940's, when there was awakening in other states, the people of Bawal also organised themselves to get over their difficulties. The Praja Mandal was formed. The ruler tried to suppress the movement but he did not achieve any success. By 1946, the Praja Mandal gained great momentum in the region. On March 25, the state authorities arrested all the prominent Praja Mandal activists and promulgated Section 144 in the entire region. This, however, did not dishearten the people who offered satyagraha in large numbers. Ultimately, the ruler had to yield. He released all the prisoners and conceded many of the Praja Mandalists' demands.

After India achieved Independence, the Mahendragarh district along-with the other districts of the Patiala State formed part of the Patiala and East Punjab State Union (Pepsu) in 1948, which merged with Punjab in 1956. Haryana was carved out of Punjab in 1966 and Mahendragarh became the district of the new state.

Total Area Population in 1971

Taluka	Area (Sq. Km.)	Population	Population per sq. Km.
Bawal	1073.91	2,77,961	258
Behlulpur	277.47	77,377	277
Harol	250.31	2,40,298	961
Mahendragarh	781.34	3,07,042	393

The district had a density of 258 persons per square kilometre in 1971 which made it the 10th most densely populated district in the State. The density of population in 1971 was 277 persons per square kilometre. Among the talukas of the district, Harol and Behlulpur had the highest density.

The population distribution in the district is given in the figure. The figure shows that the population is not only not well distributed, but also has a high concentration in Harol, Behlulpur, Mahendragarh, Bawal, Behlulpur,

CHAPTER III

PEOPLE

AREA AND POPULATION

The total population of the present Mahendragarh district, with an area of 2,983 square kilometres, worked out on the basis of 1971 Census, is 7,34,143. The details are given as under :

Area	Population			Persons per sq. km.	Females per 1000 Males
	Male	Female	Total		
2,983	3,83,197	3,50,946	7,34,143	246	916

The district ranked eighth according to population in the state. The district had 7.3 per cent of the total population of the state and the ratio of females per thousand males was 916, the highest in the state. The ratio of female population per thousand males for whole of the state was 867. The Scheduled Castes formed 16.42 per cent of the total population in the district in 1971, comprising 1,20,549 persons with 62,109 males and 58,440 females. The tahsil-wise area with population of the district worked out on 1971 Census is given below :

Tahsil-wise Population in 1971

Tahsil	Area (sq. km.)	Population	Population per sq. km.
Rewari	1013.36	2,77,863	274
Bawal	247.40	57,309	232
Narnaul	957.30	2,42,961	254
Mahendragarh	764.94	1,56,010	204

The district had a density of 246 persons per square kilometre in 1971 which made Mahendragarh the 6th most densely populated district in the state. The density of Haryana (in 1971) was 227 persons per square kilometre. Among the tahsils of the district, Rewari and Narnaul had the highest density.

Due to frequent territorial changes in the district boundaries, the figures of population in the district as such are not available. However, the population variation in 6 towns, Rewari, Narnaul, Mahendragarh, Bawal, Kanina

and Ateli for which census data are available, is shown below since 1901 :

Census Year	Population	Variation
Rewari		
1901	27,295	
1921	23,129	(-)4,166
1941	30,673	(+)7,544
1951	34,082	(+)3,409
1961	36,994	(+)2,912
1971	43,885	(+)6,891
Narnaul		
1901	19,489	
1921	20,410	(+)921
1941	23,063	(+)2,653
1951	18,180	(-)4,883
1961	23,959	(+)5,779
1971	31,875	(+)7,916
Mahendragarh		
1901	9,984	
1921	9,580	(-)404
1941	9,771	(+)191
1951	7,961	(-)1,810
1961	9,071	(+)1,110
1971	11,496	(+)2,425
Bawal		
1901	5,739	
1921	5,137	(-)602
1941	5,709	(+)572

1951	5,392	(-)-317
1961	5,924	(+)-532
1971	6,529	(+)-605
Kanina		
1951	3,457	
1961	4,582	(+)-1,125
1971	5,875	(+)-1,293
Ateli		
1951	1,015	
1961	1,521	(+)-506
1971	1,937	(+)-416

The population of Rewari town declined from 27,295 in 1901 to 23,129 in 1921 due to epidemics and drought. The population thereafter steadily increased. However, it was in the decade 1961-1971 that the population increased substantially from 36,994 in 1961 to 43,885 in 1971. Narnaul town too showed a very gradual increase in population from 19,489 in 1901 to 31,875 in 1971. Thus in seventy years the town's population increased by 12,386, which shows a growth rate of 63 per cent over the 1901 population. However, the largest increase of population was in the decade 1961-1971. The population of Narnaul town increased from 23,959 in 1961 to 31,875 in 1971 depicting a net increase of 7,916. The growth of other towns in the district had been rather poor. Mahendragarh town had a population of 9,984 in 1901, which increased to 11,496 in 1971. Thus in seventy years the town's population showed an increase of 1,512 only which reflects a growth rate of 15 per cent between 1901-1971. The town's population decreased from 9,771 in 1941 to 7,961 in 1951 as a result of muslim migration. The growth rate for Bawal town from 1901 to 1971 was 14 per cent, showing an increase of population from 5,739 in 1901 to 6,529 in 1971. The population of Kanina in 1951 was 3,457, which increased to 5,875 in 1971. The growth rate of Kanina between 1951-1971 was 70 per cent. The population of Ateli had almost doubled between 1951-1971.

In 1947, large number of Muslims migrated to Pakistan and 3,945 displaced persons were resettled in the district. Thus the decade variation of population for Mahendragarh district can only be seen from 1961-1971.

Population in 1961	Population in 1971	Increase in population	Percentage increase 1961-1971
6,00,786	7,34,143	1,33,357	22.2

The district had the least growth rate of 22.2 per cent during the decade 1961—1971 among the districts of the state. This was far below the 32.23 per cent growth rate for whole of the state.

RURAL AND URBAN POPULATION

The total rural population in the district in 1971 was 6,32,546, while the urban population was 1,01,597. Thus 86.16 per cent of the district population lived in rural areas. The break-up of sex-wise rural and urban population is given below :—

Rural/Urban Population 1971

Rural			Urban			Percentage of rural population
Males	Females	Total	Male	Female	Total	
3,29,234	3,03,312	6,32,546	53,963	47,634	1,01,597	86.16

LANGUAGE

According to 1971 Census, Hindi is the mother tongue of 6,87,777 persons. The next important linguistic group is of those whose mother tongue is Punjabi. Their number is 3,435. Urdu is spoken by only 265 persons. The remaining 162 persons speak different languages. The majority of the people speak Ahirwati dialect in the district. People of some villages in Nizampur block bordering Jhunjhunu district of Rajasthan speak both Bagri (Rajasthani) and Ahirwati dialects. Bangru dialect is spoken by the people of the areas adjoining Dadri tahsil of the Bhiwani district. Mewati dialect is also spoken by few people in villages of the Rewari tahsil.

Ahirwati¹ represents the connecting link between Mewati and three other dialects, Bangru, Bagri and Shekhawati. In its grammar it differs little from Mewati. It is the stepping stone between that dialect and Bangru, and the principle point of connection between it and Bangru is the use of the word 'sun' instead of the Mewati 'hun' to mean "I am". Thus *hir sai*-he is an Ahir. The nominative of strong masculine nouns of the *a* base ends in *o* and the same rule is followed in adjectives and in the suffixes of the genitive. Short 'a' often becomes long 'a', e.g. *kankar* for *Kankar*-modula limestone, *makhi* for *makhi*-fly.

1. For details of Ahirwati dialect see *Linguistic Survey of India* (by G.A. Grierson), Vol. IX, Part II, pp. 49-51, 233-41.

RELIGIOUS LIFE**Hindus**

The Hindus constitute overwhelming majority of the total population in the district and predominate both in the rural and urban areas. A majority of them follow traditional beliefs and practise Sanatan Dharma. Although they worship gods and goddesses, they believe in one God and regard Him as the creator of the universe. They worship Shiva, Vishnu, Brahma, Rama, Krishna, etc. Both Rama and Krishna are regarded as the incarnations of God who took birth for the preservation of dharma on earth. The *Vedas*, the *Upnishads*, the *Ramayana* and the *Mahabharata* are their sacred books. They worship in the temples and *shivalyas* where idols of gods and goddesses are kept. Local deities such as Bhumia or Khera, Pirs and saints including deities such as Pitras and Satis are also worshipped. The practice of observing *shradhas* in commemoration of dead ancestors is very common. These are performed for 15 days before the commencement of *nauratrias*. Brahmans are fed on the *tithi* (date) on which the ancestor died and *khir*, *halwa*, etc., are offered to them. No member of the family takes meals before the performance of *shradha*. Some of the important deities worshipped by Hindus are detailed below :

Shiva.—Shiva is one of the principal gods to whom Hindus especially venerate throughout the state as in other parts of the country. Shiva temple or Shivalya is found almost in every village and provides glimpses of old architecture. People visit Shivalya, generally on Mondays, and worship the deity by pouring milk and water on the *linga*, (symbol of Shiva). The *jogis* (priests), generally of the Kanphara (pierced ears) class, take the offerings. Shiva's temple at village Bhagot (Mahendragarh tahsil), Shankar Bhagwan Mandir at village Kamania (Narnaul tahsil), the Shivalya (Modhawala) at Narnaul and the temple of Baba Rameshwar Dass at Bahmanwas deserve special mention.

Rama.—Rama is worshipped by all Hindus as the incarnation of Vishnu. The idols of Rama, Lakshmana and Sita are placed in temples known as Thakurdvaras. Rama is especially worshipped on the occasion of Dussehra when Rama Lila, the story of the Ramayan, is staged in various parts of the district. Ram Lila keeps reverence for Rama and folk-theatre alive.

Krishna.—Krishna is worshipped throughout the district by all Hindus especially the Ahirs who claim themselves to be his descendants. They used to visit Mathura and Vrindaban, the sacred places connected with the life of Krishna even in those days when there were

no means of communication except carts or camels. Besides, the name of Krishna is very dear to every Hindu of the district as elsewhere in the country and temples dedicated to him are found everywhere in villages and towns of the district.

Hanumana.—Hanumana is worshipped throughout the district. There is a custom of constructing a Hanumana temple before digging a well to avert any accident as Hanumana is considered the god of strength. Any difficult work is started after saying 'Jai Bajrang Bali'. The deity is worshipped on Tuesday. In Rewari town, a big temple dedicated to Hanumana is situated near the Tej Singh Tank. At Bahmanawas a big statue of Hanuman stands installed in the precincts of the temple.

Devi or Durga.—Closely connected to Shiva is the worship of his consort Devi or Durga. The goddess goes by various names. The temple of Chamunda Devi and Naina Devi at Narnaul are worth mentioning. Besides, Devi fairs are also held at Tankri (Rewari tahsil), Khudana (Mahendragarh tahsil), Mahesar, Sarohi, Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry(Narnaul tahsil). Sitla Mata is worshipped for protection against smallpox. An important shrine of one of the deities is at Garhi Mahasar (near Ateli) in the Narnaul tahsil. Sitla Mata is supposed to be most virulent and is worshipped here on 7th of *chaitra* which is called *sili satam* when the food cooked during the previous night is taken and no fresh food is served. Fairs are held on this day at many places. Besides this, *phag*, the day after the Holi festival and any Monday, especially in *Chaitra* or *Asadha*, are favourable days. Children and women participate in the worship.

Shani(Saturn).—On every Saturday, people worship the idol of Shani, riding an elephant, at Narnaul. Mustard oil is poured over the idol and *rewri*(preparation of sugar and til) is offered. The Dakaut Brahmins look after the temple and accept offerings.

Sun god.—He is a god whom the Hindus delight to honour. No shrine, however, has been dedicated to this god in the district. Sunday is the day sacred and more pious among his devotees keep the fast in his honour on this day. Water is offered to the Sun by raising both the hands holding a pot full of water and pouring water on the ground while concentrating on the deity. Besides, when the devotee first steps out of door in the morning, he salutes the Sun.

Bhumia or Khera.—Bhumia or the god of the homestead or the village itself, often called Khera, is worshipped on Sunday. People light a lamp and offer a bread at the shrine and feed Brahmins. This is

done twice a year after the harvests. Bhumia is also worshipped at marriages. The bridegroom, before proceeding to the bride's house, takes a round of his own village and worships Bhumia and again worships him before he enters his house along with his bride. When a woman has had a son, she lights lamps and affixes with cow dung five *culms* of the *panni* grass to the shrine. Likewise the first milk of a cow or buffalo is always offered to Bhumia.

Gugga Pir.—Gugga or Jahar Pir is supposed to be the greatest of the snake-kings. He was originally a Chauhan Rajput named Jahar but later embraced Islam. Gugga is worshipped everywhere. The 9th and the 15th of *Bhadra*, especially the former, considered as Gugga Naumi are dedicated to this Pir and generally the 9th of any month and usually Mondays are regarded as his days. His shrine usually consists of a small one-room building with a minaret on each corner and a grave inside. It is called a *mari* and is marked by a long bamboo with peacock plumes, a coconut, some coloured threads and some hand-*pankhas* with a blue flag on the top. On the 9th of *Bhadra*, the people of this district worship his symbol, a black snake painted on a wall and the worshippers take a fly-flap, known as *chhari*, round the village to the sound of *deroos* and the devotees salute it and offer *churmas*. The Balmikis sing devotional songs known as '*Pir ke Solle*' in his honour to the accompaniment of *deroos*. Beating of *deroos* is the exclusive privilege of the Balmiki community; others may take part in singing, dancing or simply offering *charhawa*. It is believed that the spirit of Gugga temporarily takes abode in the devotee dancer who proves this fact by beating himself occasionally with a bunch of iron chains called *chabuk*. Gugga Pir is also the subject of folk-songs.

Other Saints.—Guru Ravidas, a great saint born at Mandur village near Kashi (Varanasi), in Uttar Pradesh is revered throughout the district. Guru Ravidas was against the caste system. Temples dedicated to him have been erected in various towns. The birth anniversary of the Guru is celebrated on the *purnima* of Magh (February-March). On the occasion, *jhankies* from the life of the Guru are taken out in procession to the accompaniment of brass bands and *Bhajan Mandlis* singing devotional songs.

People also rever Rishi Balmiki, the composer of the *Ramayana*. His birth anniversary is celebrated with great enthusiasm in the month of October.

JAINS

They reside mostly in Narnaul and Rewari tahsils. They are of the Aggarwal community who have adopted the Jain faith. †They

worship Lord Mahavira and the images of Tirthankaras. They celebrate their *parvas*, i.e. the festivals connected with the life of Mahavira and Tirthankaras. Jains abstain from taking meat and are protectors of animal life.

Muslims

Muslims from the district migrated to Pakistan after the partition of the country in 1947. There are now very few Muslim families in the district and their number is negligible.

Christians

Like the Muslims, Christians are also small in number in the district. The Christians assemble in the Church at Rewari on every Sunday and on other Christian festivals.

Sikhs

Sikhs, a minority community in the district, have distinct places of worship. The area having been ruled by the Sikh rulers in the past, there is a Gurdwara in almost every town. In some villages too where there are some Sikh families, one finds a Gurdwara, howsoever, small it may be. There is a big Gurdwara at Narnaul where large number of Sikhs gather on *Gurpurbs* and Baisakhi.

SUPERSTITIONS

The masses generally cling to many traditional superstitions in performing ordinary acts of daily life. Some of the commonly known and practised superstitions are listed below :—

If a black cat crosses one's path, it is believed to be a sign of failure in work. Similarly, if some one sneezes, it is a bad omen for going out or commencing a work. A women with an empty pitcher, coming from an opposite direction is considered very inauspicious. If the pitcher is full of water, it is regarded as lucky sign. While going out, it is generally considered inauspicious to come across a Brahman (professional) or a person carrying a bundle of fire wood. However, if a sweeper with his basket and broom comes across, it is regarded as a good omen.

An astrologer is invariably consulted on every important occasion, e.g. on the birth of a child, for fixing up the date of marriage or any other auspicious occasion, for proceeding on a distant journey, on opening a factory or a new business, checking favourable stars in matters of litigation, examinations, career, etc.

The spread of education has had little influence in weaning away people from such practices and superstitions.

FESTIVALS AND FAIRS

The people of the district celebrate major festivals with same enthusiasm as in other parts of Haryana. The most significant festivals are Diwali, Dussehra, Ram Naumi, Holi, Teej, Janam Ashtami, Shivaratri, Sankrat and Raksha Bandhan. Some festivals are celebrated only by women and these are Karva Chauth, Nirjala Ekadshi and Hoe. Three festivals, viz. Teej, Gugga Naumi and Dulhandi carry wider local significance in the district. Teej is celebrated on *sawan sudi 3* (July-August), Gugga Naumi on *Bhadon Badi 9* (August-September) and Dulhandi on *Chet Badi 1* (March-April), the day following Holi.

Teej called Haryali Teej is a seasonal festival. To celebrate the change of season, the girls eagerly await for Teej. It is an occasion for newly married girls to go back to their parents for celebrating first Teej with their girl friends. On Teej bevy of young girls attired in their best clothes and wearing new multi-coloured glass bangles start pouring in some open space or a tree grove near the pond and it takes the form of a fair. Stout swings are hung from the trees for the girls to swing. They swing with agility and sing songs. The humour, pathos and passions contained in these songs are really touching. The in-laws of the girls send gifts, ornaments, clothes and sweets when they are with their parents and they also give gifts when married girls go back to their in-laws. Prominent Teej fairs are held at Bawal (Bawal Tahsil), Dharuhera, Khori, Rewari (Rewari Tahsil), Bawania, Dongra Ahir, Nautana, Kanina, Mahendragarh (Mahendragarh Tahsil) and Narnaul.

Gugga Naumi is a religious festival connected with snake worship observed on Bhadra 9 (August). To commemorate Gugga Naumi, fairs are held at his shrine. People who do not go to his shrine, pour *lassi* (diluted milk) and *sevan* (cooked vermicelli) in holes that might contain snakes. The important Gugga fairs are held at Bawal (Bawal Tahsil), Asadpur, Bikaner, Dharuhera, Darauli, Suruora, Jatusana, Rohria, Turkiawas (Rewari Tahsil), Nautana, Bawana, Kuksi, Kanina, Patherwa, Bawania, Maupura (Mahendragarh Tahsil), Hudiana, Kauwi, Nangal Chaudhry, Ateli and Narnaul (Narnaul Tahsil).

Dulhandi or Charandi is celebrated throughout the district on *Chet 1* (March-April), the day following Holi. The festival is known as Phag in other parts of Haryana and is gayest among Hindu festivals. In Mahendragarh district, the tradition of beating the men with *Kolras* (twisted cloth strip) is not widely prevalent and men and women generally play Dulhandi

only by throwing coloured water on one another or smearing their faces with dry coloured powder. In urban areas, the Holi is played on *Phagun Purnamashi* but people in rural areas play on the following day. Fairs are also held on Dulhandi at Bharawas, Khori, Rewari (Rewari Tahsil), Dalanwas, Kharoli, Bawania, Behrawas, Nehlawas (Mahendragarh Tahsil), Rajpura, Bachhod, Mirzapur, Mosnota and Narnaul (Narnaul Tahsil).

Most of the fairs are of religious origin but they exhibit a bit commercial colour as thousands of people attend them and traders find an occasion to sell their goods. The fairs are held on festivals like Gugga Naumi, Teej, Dulhandi, Shivratri, Janam Ashtami, Dushehra, Sankrat and Ram Naumi but Gugga Naumi, Teej and Dulhandi fairs are more common.

Like Karnal and Ambala districts, the fairs to the reverence of Devis (goddesses) are also common in the district. These fairs are variously known as Tankriwali Devi, Budho Mata, Durga Mata, Mata Jawali Devi, Tati Mata, Bichhun Mata, Thawri Mata, Pathwari Mata, Chamunda Devi, Masani Mata and Sitla Mata. A few important Devi fairs which are attended by large number of people are Jawala Devi fair or Devi Ka Mela at Mahesar (Narnaul Tahsil), Sitla fair at Assanwas (Narnaul Tahsil), Doo Doo (Sitla Mata) fair at Nangal Chaudhry (Narnaul tahsil), Budho Mata fair at Shabazpur (Narnaul tahsil), Basaura fair and Chamunda Devi fair at Narnaul.

There are a few Sati fairs of Mahendragarh tahsil of this district held in memory of women who committed *Sati*. These fairs are held at Dalanwas, Balyash and Pali. The fair at Dalanwas is held in memory of a Mahajan women who committed *Sati* when her husband was killed by robbers.

About 40 fairs, associated with local saints or Sadhus are held in the district. These fairs' are evenly distributed over the district and some of them attract visitors from far off places. Fairs associated with Bhairon are most common. About the Bhairon fair at Basduda (Rewari tahsil), it is said that people from Agra and Delhi come to this fair. Formerly girls of Mallah caste used to be married to the god at this festival but the practice has long been discontinued. The tradition is still followed by way of marrying an effigy of a girl made out of wheat flour to the god.

One of the important fairs of the district is Shaheedi Mela held in September for two days at Rampura (Rewari tahsil) to commemorate death anniversary of Rao Tula Ram, an Ahir hero of the Uprising of 1857.

SOCIAL LIFE

Social Groups

Significant social groups in the district are Ahirs, Jats, Brahmans, Rajputs, Banias, Gujjars, Aroras, Khattris, Rahbaris, Balmikis, Chamars, Dhanaks, Kumhars, Khatis and Lohars. Rahbaris have been mentioned because of their peculiar features but they are few. Aroras and Khattris comprise the displaced population who settled in the district as a consequence of the Partition in 1947. Ahirs, Jats, Rajputs, Gujjars and Brahmans form the agricultural backbone of the district.

Ahirs.—Ahirs are in majority in the district. The term Ahir may be variously explained. The Ahir, according to H.A. Rose, is derived from the Sanskrit Abhira, a milkman. The traditional view is, however, that Lord Krishna, was an Ahir and they are his descendants. Besides, Ahirs of the district call themselves Yadavs or Yaduvanshis, the clan to which Krishna belonged. They are good cultivators and are of the same social standing as the Jats and the Gujjars. A very large number of them are in defence services. They are good agriculturists and herdsmen of the first rank.

Jats.—Jats are scattered all over the district and a large number of them reside in Mahendragarh and Bawal tahsils. Besides, being fine soldiers, they are good cultivators. The Jats are a tough and sturdy community. Today they are more liberal in social relations than certain other communities. Though generally agriculturists, they now do not confine themselves to it and have turned to other professions and vocations with remarkable success. They are known for their robust physique, common sense, patient labour, liberal attitude and love for the land.

Brahmans.—People still regard Brahmans with reverence, based on the traditional belief of ages. In ancient times Buddhism and Jainism were the first to protest against the Brahmans for giving religious sanction to the caste system and performing rituals for their own advantage. Modern education, the influence of western thought, centralised administration and the rapid means of communications are some of the important factors which are breaking down the caste system signifying the superiority of Brahmans. Besides, the secular provisions laid down in the Constitution of India provide a legal basis for change in the same direction. Much that remains of the Brahmans former glory is now witnessed only at the time of ceremonies associated with birth, death and marriage. However, Bhargava Brahmans claim that their ancestor Chavan Rishi had performed *tapasya* at Dhosi hill about 5

kilometres from Narnaul. Now the Brahmans are not wholly dependent upon their *jajmans* and have taken to agriculture, trade and services.

Rajputs.—They represent the ancient Kashtrya Varna and are known for their valour, chivalry, loyalty, horsemanship, swordmanship and faithfulness. Rajputs in the district retain the martial instinct of their ancestors and prefer an army career to agriculture. A large number of them are in the armed forces and have proved their traditional worth of fine soldiers.

Banias.—Bania is a derivation of a Sanskrit word, Vanij, a term applied to traders and businessmen. They are mostly Aggarwals and are said to have come from Agroha (Hisar district). The Banias constitute the backbone of the village economy and industry. They control commerce and trade and operate most of the privately managed public utility projects. Many of the Banias in the past left their villages and established business in other parts of the country, particularly at Calcutta, Bombay, etc. They have also shifted towards service.

Gujjars.—Gujjars in the district are efficient cultivators. They are of good physique and have equal social status with Jats and Ahirs. Cattle-keeping was their main profession in the past but now they have turned to agriculture. They are also keen to join the army. They are the devotees of Lord Krishna. Their main concentration is around Narnaul town.

Aroras and Khatris.—They came to this district from Pakistan mostly from Multan and Dera Ghazi Khan districts after the partition in 1947. They have largely settled in the urban areas, i.e. Narnaul, Mahendragarh, Rewari, Bawal and Ateli. They are hard working, energetic and enterprising people and are engaged in business, trade, government services and agriculture. Their outlook has influenced the local people of the district. They have liberalised the traditional custom of *pardah* and other rituals. They have a progressive outlook and are known for modern trends in dress and dwellings.

Rahbaris.—Rahbaris are believed to have come from Rajasthan. They had left their homes during famines and settled in various parts of Haryana. In this district they reside in village Nimbi (Mahendragarh tahsil). They claim Rajput origin and believe that they had socially sunk due to their poverty. The influence of Rajasthan is still noticed in their dress and dialect. Their main occupation is the camel trade. They are distinguished from others by long beards and moustaches.

Balmikis.—Balmikis were scavengers and even now they follow this profession. They reside both in rural and urban areas. However, in

the rural areas they rear pigs, goats and sheep. They claim that they are descendants of Maharishi Balmiki, the celebrated author of the *Ramayana*. Younger generation among them now prefer government service.

Chamars.—Chamars of the district are divided into 2 sections; Chamars and Jatia or Jatia Chamars. Though chamars are scattered throughout the district. Yet Jatia or Jatav Chamars are found mostly in Rewari tahsil. They do not mix socially and inter-marriages do not take place. The term Chamar is, in fact, an occupational one. Besides their old profession of leather and shoe-making, they have shifted to services and agriculture. This community being politically conscious has progressed much after Independence and its members now occupy important positions in the services.

Jatia or Jatav Chamars deal in hide and skin.

Dhanaks.—Dhanaks are scattered in villages and towns of the district. Weaving is their hereditary profession. In addition to government service a large number of them have now shifted to cultivation as agricultural labourers.

Kumhars.—Kumhar is an occupational term connected with pottery. Besides traditional occupation, they have taken to agriculture. In towns, they keep donkeys for carrying soil for house construction. They have their own customs and worship Sitla Devi in particular.

Khatis.—The term Khati is the name of an occupation and developed into caste later. They trace their origin to Brahmans and call themselves Jangir Brahmans. Khatis prepare wooden implements for agriculture. The village Khatis are not technically trained in their occupation and they are only capable of making furniture for villagers. They have also taken to agriculture in addition to carpentry.

Lohars.—Lohar is also an occupational term and denotes a caste now. They are scattered in the rural areas. Lohars have not confined themselves to blacksmith's work and have also adopted agricultural profession.

Gadiya Lohars are so called because of their cart of peculiar shape in which they carry their belongings. They claim Rajput origin and wander from village to village in search of blacksmith's work. They pitch up their tents on the fringe of villages. These are gypsy type people.

The caste system is losing its rigidity under the pressure of economic and social forces.

JOINT FAMILY SYSTEM

The family is locally known as *kunba* or *kutumb*. A group of families having common ancestors is called *thola*. Two or more *tholas* are jointly called *pana* or *patti*. It is common for several brothers, and occasionally for cousins to live together and cultivate the land jointly. More often the land is managed jointly while the owners live separately. The most important characteristic of the joint family system is that the income of all its members is pooled and spent for the benefit of all its members whether or not they have actually earned any part of it. The basis for the system is to ensure the maintenance of all descendants from a common ancestor/father. The orphans, the children, young boys and girls and elderly or physically incapacitated members of the family receive due attention of the head of the family and are supported and maintained out of the joint family funds.

The joint family system which has been a distinguishing feature of the Hindu Society since time immemorial, is breaking up under the stress of the changed economic and social conditions. Various factors are responsible for this change. The competition for earning a living, the tax-structure, the increased cost of living, the mobility resulting from the requirements of service and above all, the growing spirit of individualism, spell the doom of this ancient institution. It is no longer possible for one earning member of a family to feed and support a host of relations and dependents. Even in the family where every member now is earning, it is difficult to make both ends meet. Another factor which has contributed to the dissolution of the system is the growing tendency of late marriages both among the boys and girls. When boys and girls marry at a comparatively advanced age, they prefer to live independently. Those who enter service, have naturally to go wherever they are posted and this loosens the hold of the joint family.

While these changes are more marked in urban areas, joint family system is disappearing even in the villages where people depend almost entirely on agriculture. The average holding is too small to support a joint family. It is, therefore, inevitable that some members of the family should move out in search of service to the towns or elsewhere to supplement the family income. In this way, the migration of rural population to the towns in search of a living—whether in business, industry, service or some form of labour—has vitally effected the structure of the joint family. Those who migrate to the towns get allured to modern amenities and try to settle down there with their families.

Inheritance.—The intestate property, before the enforcement of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, was inherited by the sons after the death

of the father, and if there was no son, the widow of the deceased inherited it. The widow had, however, only life interest in the property and she was not legally entitled to dispose it of as she liked. Except *stridhana*¹, a woman was not supposed to be the absolute owner of the property nor could a married daughter claim share in her father's property. Now, according to the Hindu Succession Act, 1956, sons and daughters, the mother and the widow alongwith other heirs² of the deceased, if any, inherit the intestate property simultaneously. A daughter has as good a claim in her father's property as a son, provided the father does not debar her by law. In spite of the right conferred by law, however, it appears to have become a general practice for the girls not to claim any part of the intestate property. In the absence of a brother, a girl may sometime give her land to her near relative though in such cases she usually retains her right to property. In a few cases, suits were instituted by daughters who were denied their share in the intestate property.

MARRIAGE CUSTOMS

Wedding.—The preliminary ceremony of the wedding is *sagai* or betrothal which is made by parents. As per custom, a Hindu may not marry a woman belonging to his own *gotra*, his mother's *gotra* and his grand mother's *gotra*. Among Banias, a man may marry in any *gotra* except his own, even in his mother's family, provided the relationship be not very close. There is no distinct limit fixed. After the *sagai* or betrothal, the *sawa*, i.e. an auspicious date for the wedding is agreed upon by both the parties after consulting the Brahman. The bride's father sends a letter written on paper stained yellow to the boy's father suggesting to him the date of marriage. The *lagan* is sent 9 or 11 days before the date fixed for wedding and is accompanied by cash and other presents or symbols such as betelnuts, a coconut, a coloured thread, etc., for the boy and his relations. These presents are delivered to the boy and his assembled relations. A day before marriage, the maternal uncle of the boy or girl bring the *bhat* which consists of monetary and other presents and necessarily include a wedding suit.

Before the departure of the *baraat*, the boy is dressed in his wedding suit brought by his maternal uncle. The *kangna* or seven-knotted sacred thread is tied on his right wrist. His head-dress consists of a crown or crest over the turban and a *sehra* covering the face. After receiving blessings from mother and aunts, the bridegroom is

1. Stridhana means woman's property, that is to say properties over which a woman has got absolute power of disposal.

2. Specified in Class I of the Schedule, vide Section 8 of the Hindu Succession Act, 1956.

made to sit on mare's back. This ceremony is popularly known as *ghurchari*. Women follow along singing songs peculiar to the occasion and the mother or aunt or an elderly woman carries a utensil containing water. His sister puts her wrap over her right hand and places on it rice which she showers at the crown of bridegroom as he goes along. He goes and worships the god of the homestead. *Bag pakrai*, *kajal ghalai* and *chuchi pilai* are some of the peculiar ceremonies which are performed at the time of *ghurchari* before the marriage party proceeds for the home of the bride. Thereafter the *baraat*, usually comprising the relatives and friends, sets out amidst music. In some cases, *ghurchari* is performed a day earlier.

If both the parties reside in the same town or place, no arrangements for the lodging of the *baraat* are necessary. If, on the other hand, the *baraat* comes from out station, it is received by the bride's side usually at the railway station. If it comes by road, it is received at some pre-agreed spot on the outskirts of the town or village and from there the party is then usually taken in procession to some *jandal-wasa*, dharmasala, chopal or any other place where arrangements are made for the stay and entertainment of the *baraat*. Thereafter, the milni ceremony takes place where boy's father and girl's father embrace each other and the latter gives some money as gift to the boy's father. Among the Aroras and Khattris, milni is also performed by other near relatives of both sides and cash gifts are given by each participant of the girl's side to his counterpart. In the evening, the *baraat* proceeds in procession with bridegroom on the mare towards the bride's house with pomp and show. The groom's friends and relatives dance before the mare to the accompaniment of the band. Such dancing in a marriage procession is a new feature of recent origin. The marriage party is received by the relatives and friends on the bride's side. The first ceremony to be performed here is called *barothi*—the threshold ceremony. The boy is taken to the threshold of the girl's house mounted on the mare where he strikes the *toran* (a small wooden frame suspended over the door) with a branch of tree. At the door of the house women stand singing and *jai mala* is put by the bride around the neck of the bridegroom and vice versa. After this colourful ceremony the bridegroom is taken inside the house of the bride and the *baratis* are then entertained to delicious and sumptuous dinner amidst merriment and festivity.

The actual marriage ceremony takes place after nightfall in the *angan* of bride's house where a canopy is erected. Sometimes *purohits* or *pandits* of both the parties are present. Sacred fire for *havan* is lighted and the *purohit* then calls upon her father to perform the *kanyadan*, i.e. formal bride-giving. The latter then puts some money or a

gold ring into the boy's hand and the *pandit* pours water on them. The father then says that he gives his daughter to the bridegroom. The *purohit* then knots her *ornha* to the boy's *chaddar* and the *phera* ceremony then takes place. The girl and the boy both circle slowly four times round the sacred fire keeping their right sides towards it, the boy leads in the first three and the girl in the last. This practice is followed by all communities belonging to Hindu religion. After the fourth *phera* the boy and the girl sit down, their positions, however, being changed, the bridegroom now sitting on the girl's right. The ceremony is highly colourful, picturesque, and at some times interesting also. There may, however, be noticed minor variations among certain castes in the performance and observance of these ceremonies.

Social mores and folkways change like fashions. There was a time when dancing girls were invited to the wedding; their songs and dances provided fun and frolic to the guests, especially in rural areas where there was no other source of entertainment. The practice of inviting dancing parties has virtually vanished.

Previously, the *baraat* used to stay at the bride's place for 3 or even more days but due to economic stress the *baraat* now returns the same or the next morning. The bride's maternal uncle escorts the girl, followed by singing women, to the car or bus in which she is to travel. Small coins are thrown over the heads of the couple as a mark of good wishes and the *baraat* starts back for home.

Anand karaj is performed among the Sikhs. The distinction between *anand karaj* and the Vedic marriage is that in the former the bride and bridegroom instead of going round the sacred fire, go round the holy *Granth*.

Civil marriages can be performed by the marriage officer of the district who is the Deputy Commissioner. Marriages under the Hindu Marriage Act are also performed by registration in the office of the *Tahsildar* who is the registrar for marriages under this Act. Such marriages are, however, rare.

Dowry System.—The evil of dowry system has found its place in all communities. In the past the girl's father, out of love and affection for her, used to give some daily necessities of life, i.e. *palang*, utensils, beddings, clothes and some ornaments as presents. But now this evil has greatly enlarged its scope and dowry is demanded. The evil has so crept into the society that it has become increasingly difficult for a poor father to marry even an able daughter without money. Even the dowry legislation has not succeeded in achieving its objects.

Widow Marriage.—Karewa is a simple sort of marriage for widows. It is contracted with the younger brother of the husband, who might take his brother's widow as his wife. This practice is prevalent among all the communities except Rajputs, Brahmans, Banias, Aroras and Khattris. Such a marriage generally does not take place within a year of the husband's death. Among Rajputs, Brahmans and Banias, the karewa has also made its appearance recently.

Kara.—Kara is another form of widow marriage. It is the marriage of a widow outside her husband's clan. There is no ceremony attached to *kara* and a mediator helps in the marriage.

Widows who do not wish to marry live on the property left by their husbands. In urban areas, however, the educated ones take up employment or engage themselves in some kind of paid or honorary social work.

Divorce.—Divorce is rare in the district. There is a general tendency to suffer hardship resulting from ill-matched marriages. Some couples prefer to lead a miserable life rather than to dissolve the marriage. Another way out has been to leave the girl with her parents for good. Earlier, divorce was possible through a Panchayat. But divorce is looked down upon in almost all the castes. However, with the coming into force of the Hindu Marriage Act, 1955, a few cases of divorce are being instituted in law courts.

OTHER RITUALS AND CUSTOMS

The daily life of the people, their inter communication and their general behaviour are some of the deciding factors for rituals and customs. The birth of a child, particularly that of a son, is an occasion to celebrate. To announce the birth of an infant, a *kansi* plate (*thali*) is rung when the delivery takes place. The anxious relatives waiting outside consider it auspicious and congratulate each other. The mother and the infant are kept in separate room for 21 days. In rural areas a small dung cake fire is kept smouldering outside the room as protection against evil spirit. A branch of the margosa tree is hung on each side of the room as an auspicious sign. On *chhati* (sixth day) the members of the family and their close relatives do not sleep throughout the night and celebrate the occasion by singing folk songs and playing cards. It is believed that during this night the goddess of fate (Beh Mata) would visit the house and write the fate of the child. On the tenth day, the whole house is cleaned. The Brahman comes to the house for performing *hom* ceremony. He sprinkles Ganga water in whole of the house. After *hom*, the father or grand father of the son gives small presents to the Brahman and asks him to select a name. The Brahman opens the *patra* and having

regard to the time of birth selects the initial letter for the child's name. The elder man of the family chooses a name beginning with that letter, avoiding any name already given to any elder (genealogically) member of the family, whether alive or dead. Within these limits the selection of a name is arbitrary. The child may be named after a god or goddess as Kanhaya (Krishna), Sheoji (after Shiv), Raja Ram (Ram Chandra), Devi Sahai (protected by Devi), or after a holy place as Mathura or a holy object as Tulsi. Sometimes the names are selected with the object of averting the jealousy of an evil spirit. This is the explanation of such names as Molar (bought), Mangtu (borrowed), Ghasita (dragged), Budhu (stupid), and Badlu (exchanged-for rice given by the mother in charity). On the day of *nam karan* the Brahman, relatives and friends are entertained to feast. The parents of the mother of the new born baby offer valuable gifts and presents consisting of cash, ornaments and clothes for their daughter, son-in-law, new born child and their relatives. This custom is known as *chhuchhak*. In rural areas, during the evening of the tenth day the new born baby and his mother are taken to a well, accompanied by singing women for well worship which is known as *kuan dhokna* ceremony.

Among Aroras, the *chhati* (sixth day) is also celebrated. The *chola* is an important ceremony which is celebrated on the 15th or 17th day of the newly born son when clothes consecrated by their own Brahman are worn. A feast is arranged for the friends and relatives.

Almost all Hindus perform the *mundan* ceremony when the boy is a few years old. On this occasion, his hair is cut and head shaved for the first time and friends and relatives are entertained to a feast. The people of the district generally go to Sitla Mata temple at Gurgaon or Bhumia temple at Jhagroli (Mahendragarh tahsil) for first hair-cutting ceremony of their children (Mundan).

Yagyopveet (thread) ceremony is observed by the Khatri and Aroras, wherein the boys are made to wear *janeoo* amidst religious rituals. This ceremony is observed when the boy is above five years of age. Now the boys of these communities are made to wear *yagyopveet* just immediately before the marriage ceremony.

Hindus and Sikhs cremate their dead. On the third day, the knuckle-bones and other small fragments of bones (*phul*) are collected and taken to be immersed in the Ganga. Children below 8 years are buried without rites. Other post-cremation rites include 12-day (*bahra*) or 13-day (*tehra*) mourning. Muslims and Christians bury their dead.

POSITION OF WOMEN

The Arya Samaj took up the cause of women's emancipation by preaching against purda, propagating the importance of women's education and

widow marriage. Mahatma Gandhi also championed the cause of women's emancipation. Our Constitution provides equal rights to women. Numerous rights like the right to property, divorce etc., have been granted to Indian women through various enactments. Women are now by law required to be treated with equality and have been given equal status with men in almost every sphere.

Despite all the efforts to dispel the prejudice against women, people feel more happy on the birth of a boy than a girl. People in rural areas are now in favour of imparting higher education to their girls although they hold that ultimately the girls have to set up their homes after marriage and it is not necessary for them to earn their livelihood.

Purda is still practised but not so rigidly. Married women cover their faces when moving among the elderly persons in the house or out in the village or to the fields.

The status of women in the urban areas is comparatively much better. Education has received a new impetus with the opening of numerous academic and various technical institutions. With the spread of education, social barriers against their employment are gradually collapsing. Women are gradually taking to employment in various fields.

HOME LIFE

Villages.—Every village has its *johar* or pond in which the rain water is collected for domestic and other uses. Women folk had to trudge long distances to get drinking water from the wells. Attired in multi-coloured *lehngas* and *cholis* women were commonly seen moving about among the sand dunes balancing on their heads two to three pitchers full of water. With the implementation of the rural water supply schemes, piped water-supply has been made available in several villages and it is proposed to cover all the villages.

As a result of consolidation of holdings, enough vacant land has been left around the villages. It is locally called *phirni*. In this open space, the villagers gather their cattle before taking them out for grazing. The roads leading to the villages are now generally broad enough for their carts to move.

Dwelling, furniture and utensils.—The houses in rural areas are mostly of identical pattern. Some houses are built of stone slabs and have thatched roofs called *chhands*. With the change in economic condition of the people, the thatched houses are being replaced by pucca houses. One can now see some pucca houses of modern specifications in the villages along the road side.

Immediately after the entrance to a house, there is usually a room called *poli* or a big hall called *darwaza*. It is used as a drawing or meeting room. Then follows an open space or yard, variously called *angan* or *sahan*. Behind this are inner rooms for sleeping and living, called *kothas*. The *hara* or oven on which milk is warmed, is generally within the outer wall of the house. The houses are generally single storeyed. Roofs are used for sleeping in summer. The houses usually lack latrines in rural areas. In the past there was no special designing of houses except a few *havelis* which had been built by well-to-do families. The doors of these *havelis* were generally carved with flower decorations in brass.

There are also some receptacles (*kuthlas*) for storing grain. Each *kuthla* has a small hole at the bottom from which grain is taken as and when required. Another place of storing grain is called *bukhari*. *Kothi* is another construction within the house. It is rectangular in shape and besides food-grains, articles of daily use are also stored in it. This has a *taki* (small window for the storing or removing the articles).

With the spread of education and a growing demand for better sanitary and health facilities, the villagers are now changing the pattern of their houses. They now often have a separate cattle shed and also take care for the provision of proper light and ventilation. The availability of electricity in the villages has also changed the look of the houses.

Dwellings in urban areas are always pucca. There are some houses of old style in the towns of Rewari, Narnaul and Mahendragarh. Many buildings are well designed with exterior or interior decoration with murals of legendary gods. New colonies on modern lines have also come up. The houses in these localities have been provided with modern amenities.

There are generally few articles of furniture in a village house. These consist of bedsteads (*khat*) made of wooden frames covered with netted string. *moorhas* of different sizes, a few small stools (*pida*) of identical construction and a few small low wooden stools (*patras*). In some houses a strong bedstead made of a wooden frame and netted with thin string of *sunny* in different colours, is also seen. Articles of modern furniture like chairs and tables have also started finding a place in village houses. In urban areas chairs and tables and other articles of furniture are commonly seen. The houses of well-to-do people are tastefully furnished and decorated in modern style. Sofas, wardrobes, *palangs*, *moorhas*, tables and chairs of different descriptions and other items of modern furniture are used.

The vessels in use include *banta* and *tokni*, flat iron plates for baking *chapatis* called *tawa*, *prat* for kneading dough, *degchies* of brass, *handi* (earth-ware kettle), *karahi* (iron frying pan), *bhartias* (brass vessels for boiling *dal*, etc.), *chamchā* (spoon of steel or brass), etc. Other utensils are *chimta* (iron

tongs), *kadhawani* (earthen vessel for boiling milk), *jamawani* (earthen vessel for curdling milk), iron buckets and pitchers of various sizes.

Utensils and decorations have undergone a change particularly in urban areas. Side by side with the copper and brass utensils, porcelain, glass wares and stainless steel utensils are finding favour. The use of electrical appliances like heaters and table lamps are gaining popularity. Radios and transistors have come to be regarded as a necessity and a large number of people, both in towns and villages, are using these articles. Many people have also installed television sets in towns and rural areas of the district. Community listening sets have also been installed in many villages.

Dress and Ornaments.—The dress of rural people is simple. The everyday clothes are usually made from coarse cloth, whether mill-made or handi-craft. The male dress consists of a *pagari* (turban), a shirt or *kurta*, a *dhoti* and a pair of shoes. The usual wrap is the *chadar*, and in cold weather a thick blanket or a *razai* or a cotton quilt is substituted. The *khes* is another type of wrap. An *angocha* (handkerchief) is used occasionally. Men in service wear pants or pyjamas. Due to economic prosperity and spread of education, almost all castes have been affected by the change in fashion. The new generation wears pants, bushirts, shirts, coats, sweaters, leather shoes or *chappals*. This change is almost universal in urban and the rural areas. Although in the past men used to wear *murkis* (small plain ear-rings), this is not in vogue now. However, a gold finger-ring is worn in urban as well as in rural areas.

A full set of women's clothes is called *teel*. The village women generally wear *lehnga*, *choli* and blouse of cotton. *Peelia* a sort of headwear, the central part of which is yellow coloured and the rest printed multi-coloured is an important item of dress. The younger women have changed to *salwar*, *junper*, *dupatta*, *sari* and blouse.

The ornaments worn by women are usually made of gold and silver. As far as poor women are concerned, the emphasis is on silver ornaments. Ornaments used here include *singar patti* (worn on head), *haar*, *gulubandh*, *jaimala*, *kanthimala* (all worn round the neck), *karnaphool*, small *bujni*, *dandee*, *kantey*, *bunday*, *tops*, *bali* (all worn on ears), *koka*, *purli*, *nath* (all for the nose), *kangani*, *chura*, bracelets (all worn in arms) and *anguthi* (finger ring), *tagri* (made of silver) is worn on waist around the *lahanga* or *sari*. *Ramjhol* (jhanjhar) *kari*, *chhailkare*, *neveri*, *tati* and *pati*, *pajeb* and *churi* (all made of silver) are worn on legs. Silver rings are also worn on the toes.

Officials, doctors, lawyers, businessmen, college students, etc., irrespective of their origin (whether rural or urban), caste or creed, generally dress up in western style.

Food.—The flour for preparing *rotis* (loaves) is of bajra, wheat and barley. Gram flour is also mixed with wheat or barley flour. The *rotis* are

eaten with pulses, *karhi* and vegetables. *Karhi* is prepared with gram flour mixed with butter milk and is the special dish of the area throughout the year. *Rabri* is made by mixing bajra flour in the cold weather and barley flour in the hot weather with water and whey or buttermilk, and leaving the mixture in the sun until it ferments. Some salt and more buttermilk are then added and the whole is put over a smouldering fire. It is eaten at night with milk, and in the morning with buttermilk. The *kacharas* and *matiras* are the wild fruits which grow in abundance in October/November in this area and are consumed by the people with pleasure.

People in villages and towns are by and large vegetarian but meat eating is common among ex-servicemen and the new generation. Some villagers on a visit to a town enjoy meat dish at the *dhabas*. Menfolk are addicted to the use of tobacco, cigarette, *biddi* and hookah.

So far as drink is concerned, tea as a stimulating drink has become popular with both urban and rural folk. Tea stalls are found in every town and all big villages. In summer months some people prefer to drink a glass of *sherbat*, *lassi* and *sattu*. Soft drinks are becoming popular with younger people and are often served to guests.

Folk-Culture.—Community life is expressed through folk-songs, dances and theatre. With fast changing conditions, urban life is gradually making an inroad into rural life taking away some of its inherent beauty and cultural wealth. However, the village *gavayia* (*bhajni*) still holds an important position in the village. Despite increasing urban influence, folk culture still continues to enliven the countryside which hums with songs and dances on festivals and other numerous occasions. Of late, the government through Public Relations Department and All India Radio is paying attention to the revival of folk culture.

Folk Songs.—Folk culture is preserved by women through folk-songs. Folk-songs with their burden of love and labour have a peculiar charm of their own. These songs express hopes, aspirations, love, joys and sorrows of the rural people. We also hear about the changing seasons, the tinkling of bells of the cattle returning home at sun set and the emotional outbursts of married couples at their union and separation.

There is a variety of folk-songs each connected with a particular occasion. A good number of these are nature songs sung in particular months. The month of *sravana* (July-August) brings ecstasy in its wake. Teej or Haryali Teej is the main festival of *Sravana* falling on *Sravana Sudi 3* (third of the lunar month). It is observed throughout Haryana. By this time the rains have started. On the day of Teej women come out of their homes in

colourful costumes for enjoying a swing. While swinging they sing :—

*Aee Ree man Sawan teej,
jhulo to ghalade,
ree man champa bagg men.....*

(Oh mother : the festival of *teej* has come. Please get me a swing installed in the *champa* garden). Love of brothers and sisters also becomes a key note of the songs of *Teej* :

*Neem ke nimoli lagi sawan kad awaga,
Awe ri meri ma ka jaya,
ke ke chiji lyavega.*

(Neem tree has started bearing fruits, when *Sawan* will come ? I wait my brother to come and bring different things for me).

At marriage, when a girl is taking *pheras*, her married friends remind her of their own experiences and advise to walk slowly round the sacred fire otherwise she will become a laughing stock among her friends by revealing her impatience. The following few lines of a song beautifully depict this situation :

*Halwe halwe chal lado mahari,
Tane hansengi sahalariyan,
Ye moth se mat pare lado mahari.....*

(Dear : walk slowly otherwise friends will laugh at you. You must not be in hurry like a farmer who cuts *moth* hurriedly).

After marriage when the girl departs for her in-laws, all her friends and village women gather to give her a hearty send off through a song :

*Saathan chal pari ree,
Mere dab dab bhar aye nain,
Apni sathan ka main kurta simadyun,
Bataana ki do do laar,
Aapni sathan ka main daman simadyun,
Gotyan ki la doun dungi laar.....*

(My friend is going to her in-laws, tears flow from eyes. I will stitch a shirt with two parallel lines of buttons for her. I will prepare *daman* embroidered with golden threads for her.

The following stanza contains feelings of a spell-bound lady after hearing flute (*been*) of a snake charmer :

*Spele been baja de, chalungi tere saath,
Mehla ke rehan aali, re tane jhopri lage udas,
Jhopri men guzar karungi, ho chalungi tere saath,
Palang pe sovan aali, re tane gudri lage udas,
Gudri men guzar karungi, ho chalungi tere saath.....*

(Oh snake-charmer ! play with your *been* (flute) and I will accompany you. The snake-charmer taunts her with the remarks that she is accustomed to live in a palace and will be sad to live in a hut. She replies that she would happily live in the hut. The snake-charmer again taunts her that she is accustomed to sleep on soft bed and she would feel uncomfortable in rags. She, however, again asserts that she would live happily even in rags and will go with him).

A folk song having patriotic feeling reads as under :

*Bare bare nuksan kare apas ki foot bimari ne,
Nau so saal gulami bhogi ya murkhta hamari ne,
Foot ke karan Kaurav Pandav apas men larke marge,
Kurukshetra men hui larai nash kutam ka karge.....*

(Disunity has played havoc with our country. Due to our own foolishness we remained slaves for 900 years. On account of mutual rivalry, *Kaurava* and *Pandava* fought at Kurukshetra and destroyed their own families.

Folk Dances.—Folk-dancing, an outburst of surging emotions at times accompanies folk-singing. Among the male folk-dances, *daph* dance and *dhumal* dance are prevalent in the district. After harvesting, young persons gather at night at the outskirts of the village and enjoy loud singing with *dhumal* and *daph* dance. *Daph* dance is known for its vigour and fast movement. The dancing continues till late at night.

Folk-tales.—The region is rich in legends and folk-tales, many of which form the theme of folk-theatre and the songs of village bards. The impact of folk-tales on the social life of the people is manifest in the characters from the tales forming the motifs of the facades of houses and *chopals*. Popular folk-tales of the area are Gopi Chand-Bharthri, Nal-Damayanti, Nihaldeh Rani, Satyawan-Savitri, Puran Bhagat, Alha Udal and the like.

GAMES AND RECREATIONS

The popular games of the area are wrestling, *kabaddi*, *gindo khuli* and *gulli danda* (tipcat), the last two being usually played by children. *Gindo khuli*

is the indigenous version of the game of hockey. It is played with a stick and a ball made of rags and twigs. *Guli danda* is played in a ground outside the village in many forms. Wrestling and *kabaddi* are, however, popular sports among the young and the middle-aged.

Regular tournaments at block and district level are held to discover promising talent for national events.

Cards and *chopar* are some of the indoor games which are played and enjoyed in urban as well as rural areas. Villagers playing these games in *chopal* are a familiar sight. Modern games like hockey, cricket, football, volleyball and basketball are popular among students. Games like *kho kho*, netball, etc. are popular in girls schools. Lately, panchayats and private associations have started organising games and holding terminal and annual tournaments. Government gives grants for the construction of playgrounds and also provides coaching facilities.

The Public Relations Department has supplied radio sets to panchayats, co-operatives and schools under the 'Community Listening Scheme'. In addition to the occasional drama shows, this department frequently exhibits films, mostly documentaries, with the help of a mobile cinema unit both in the urban and rural areas. Gossiping and listening to the radio are common past-times. The portable transistor has become a fashion with everybody without distinction. In the Rewari sub-division, which falls within the television¹ transmission range, over a dozen television sets have been supplied to the village panchayats by the Public Relations Department. However, some people in this sub-division have also installed television sets in their homes.

REHABILITATION

A large-scale communal disturbances that followed the partition of the country in 1947 inflicted vast sufferings and lakhs of people were forced to migrate from Pakistan to India and vice-versa. Lakhs of homeless Hindus and Sikhs from Pakistan entered what was then called East Punjab (India). This immigration created innumerable problems which the government faced and overcame with great courage. In order to settle the refugees, camps were established in Mahendragarh district also. Free ration was distributed in these camps. Fruits, multivitamin tablets and other special items of diet were issued to refugees on medical advice. Dispensaries were opened for providing immediate medical relief. The refugee camps were of great help to the immigrants who after residing there for sometime tried to find out work to rehabilitate themselves. The immigrants from Pakistan who settled in the

¹ A T.V. relay centre was established at Rewari in 1984.

areas of the Mahendragarh district were from Mianwali, Muzafargarh, Dera Gazi Khan and Bahawalpur as is evident from the statement below :—

District of Origin (in Pakistan)	Number of Displaced Persons settled in the District		
	Rural Areas	Urban Areas	Total
Mianwali	1,900	139	2,039
Dera Gazi Khan	232	817	1,049
Muzafargarh	39	60	99
Bahawalpur	18	74	758
	2,189	1,756	3,945

Rural Rehabilitation

It was necessary to hasten the resettlement of rural displaced persons living in camps to facilitate the sowing of rabi crop of 1947-48. Each group consisting of persons who were near relatives or were bound by ties of friendship, was allotted land on temporary basis. All displaced persons who owned and held land and were cultivating it in Pakistan were considered eligible for such allotments which were converted into quasi-permanent allotment in April, 1948. The claims of displaced persons were verified from the original revenue records obtained from Pakistan. As the land left by displaced persons in West Punjab (Pakistan) was larger than the land left by the Muslims in East Punjab; the available land was converted into standard acres, and graded cuts were applied in making allotments to displaced claimants. Likewise rural houses available in rural areas were also allotted to displaced persons by March, 1978. More than 50 per cent of the 210 standard acres of evacuee agricultural land available in the district was allotted on permanent basis. Similarly, out of 79 houses and 68 sites available in rural areas, 10 houses and 19 sites were disposed of by 1977-78.

Allottees of land were given assistance by way of agricultural loans for purchasing bullocks, implements, fodder, seed and repair of wells and houses. In order to minimise misuse, loans were advanced in kind. A sum of Rs. 7,13,013 was advanced as agricultural loan in rural areas of the district.

Urban Rehabilitation

The problem of providing residential accommodation became more acute with the tendency of immigrants to settle largely in urban areas. Consequently, a number of schemes to utilize the available properties left by Muslims and to develop more houses were devised. The evacuee property became

a part of the evacuee pool for compensating displaced persons with verified claims. There were 5,660 urban evacuee properties in the towns of Mahendragarh, Narnaul, Bawal and Rewari. Out of which 5,138 were disposed of by 1977-78. Besides these, 1,349 kanals of urban agricultural land and most of it was disposed of by 1977-78.

The urban housing problem was acute because most of the urban Muslim evacuees were manual labourers and artisans and therefore their houses were unpretentious, whereas the incoming urban displaced persons mostly businessmen and shopkeepers, used to live in better dwellings. To meet this situation, a new township at Rewari was set up. The township had 298 built up houses, 4 shops and 92 plots. Initially the houses and sites were sold at reserved prices but later these properties were disposed of in accordance with the provisions of the Displaced Persons (Compensation and Rehabilitation) Rules, 1955. By 1977-78, all the houses and sites were disposed of but 4 shops were converted into civil courts. Besides 100 additional plots were demarcated out of the surplus land in the township, out of which 99 were disposed of by 1977-78.

Shopping centre known as Panjabi Market was also set up at Rewari. In this market 48 shops were constructed by the displaced persons who were advanced Rs. 500 each for the construction of the shops.

Besides a new township and shopping centre, a mudhut colony was also set up at Rewari in 1951. In this colony 150 huts were constructed and these mud-huts were offered to the occupants of the refugee camps who belonged to the Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes and to persons who were resourceless and landless. The reserved price of these mud-huts was fixed at Rs. 265 per hut. The claimants were given these huts against adjustment in their claims and others were charged only the cost of land which was Rs. 80 only and it was to be recovered in three annual instalments. It was also decided that nothing should be charged from destitute widows and disabled persons.

Urban Loans.—The refugees were encouraged to re-start their business, trade or other professions. They were advanced loans at the rate of 3 per cent per annum interest and the recovery was to be started after three years of disbursement. The loan together with the interest was repayable in equal instalments spread over a period of six years. An amount of Rs. 2,54,025 was advanced during 1949-50 to 1956-57 whereafter the scheme was discontinued.

House Building Loans.—House buildings loans were advanced to purchasers of plots in new township during 1949-50 to 1955-56. Thereafter, these loans were also discontinued.

Socio-Economic Blend

The rehabilitation of displaced persons in the district had a long term beneficial effect in a variety of ways. It has influenced the socio-economic

pattern of the people of this district particularly those residing in the urban areas. However, the small number which settled in the rural areas of the district gave evidence of superior skill in cultivation and hard work.

The culture of West Punjab too had a liberating influence on the women of the district. Displaced persons are now almost completely identified with their new habitat in the district. The process of an inter-mixture of dialects is also a fact and the displaced persons from West Punjab can often fluently speak the local dialect.

[Faint, illegible text, likely bleed-through from the reverse side of the page.]

Year	Total population	Male	Female	Total population	Total population
1951	100	50	50	100	100
1952	100	50	50	100	100
1953	100	50	50	100	100
1954	100	50	50	100	100
1955	100	50	50	100	100
1956	100	50	50	100	100
1957	100	50	50	100	100
1958	100	50	50	100	100
1959	100	50	50	100	100
1960	100	50	50	100	100
1961	100	50	50	100	100
1962	100	50	50	100	100
1963	100	50	50	100	100
1964	100	50	50	100	100
1965	100	50	50	100	100
1966	100	50	50	100	100
1967	100	50	50	100	100
1968	100	50	50	100	100
1969	100	50	50	100	100
1970	100	50	50	100	100
1971	100	50	50	100	100
1972	100	50	50	100	100
1973	100	50	50	100	100
1974	100	50	50	100	100
1975	100	50	50	100	100
1976	100	50	50	100	100
1977	100	50	50	100	100
1978	100	50	50	100	100
1979	100	50	50	100	100
1980	100	50	50	100	100
1981	100	50	50	100	100
1982	100	50	50	100	100
1983	100	50	50	100	100
1984	100	50	50	100	100
1985	100	50	50	100	100
1986	100	50	50	100	100
1987	100	50	50	100	100
1988	100	50	50	100	100
1989	100	50	50	100	100
1990	100	50	50	100	100
1991	100	50	50	100	100
1992	100	50	50	100	100
1993	100	50	50	100	100
1994	100	50	50	100	100
1995	100	50	50	100	100
1996	100	50	50	100	100
1997	100	50	50	100	100
1998	100	50	50	100	100
1999	100	50	50	100	100
2000	100	50	50	100	100

CHAPTER IV

AGRICULTURE AND IRRIGATION

INTRODUCTION

As in other districts of the state, agriculture is an important means of subsistence for the majority of the people of this district. The economy of the district depends primarily upon agriculture. Though the land in the district is not so fertile, yet the irrigation facilities are on the increase.

Land Utilisation

The total area of the district according to village papers was 298 thousand hectares in 1977-78. The land utilisation pattern during 1972-73 to 1977-78 was as under :—

(thousand hectares)

Year	Total area according to village papers	Area under cultivation	Land not available for cultivation	Other uncultivated land excluding fallow land
1	2	3	4	5
1972-73	302	259	35	8
1973-74	298	256	35	7
1974-75	298	256	34	8
1975-76	298	256	34	8
1976-77	298	255	35	8
1977-78	298	254	36	8

Year	Area under forests	Fallow land	Net area sown	Area sown more than once	Total cropped area
1	6	7	8	9	10
1972-73	5	9	245	102	347
1973-74	5	11	240	145	385
1974-75	5	6	245	130	375
1975-76	5	2	249	145	394
1976-77	5	2	247	127	374
1977-78	5	3	246	135	381

In 1977-78, the total land of the district measured 298 thousand hectares of which 5 thousand hectares (1.7 per cent) were under forests, 36 thousand hectares (12.1 per cent) not available for cultivation, 8 thousand hectares (2.7 per cent) other uncultivated land excluding fallow land, 3 thousand hectares (1.00 per cent) fallow land and the remaining 246 thousand hectares (82.5 per cent) comprised the net area sown of which 135 thousand hectares were sown more than once.

Cultivated area.—In revenue terminology, land is termed as cultivated if it has been sown even once during the previous four harvests. The cultivated area comprises current fallow lands and net area sown. Every effort is being made to make available as much water as possible to the centuries old thirsty land of the district through minor irrigation. With the growing trend for intensive cultivation, the practice of taking crops from the same plots successively for a number of years is coming into vogue. Total area under cultivation in this district during 1977-78 was 254 thousand hectares. Of this, 3 thousand hectares remained fallow and 246 thousand hectares were actually sown. An area of 135 thousand hectares was sown more than once. Thus the total cropped area was 381 thousand hectares.

Land not available for cultivation.—This includes land which cannot be brought under plough except at an exorbitant cost as well as the land covered by buildings, roads, railways and canals or otherwise provided for non-agricultural purposes including forests. An area of 36 thousand hectares accounted in this category in 1977-78.

The forests mainly consist of waste strips on sides of the roads, canals and railways, protected forests and some private land closed under section 38 of the Indian Forest Act, 1937 and sections 4 and 5 of the Land Preservation Act, 1900. In 1977-78, 5 thousand hectares of land was under forests in the district¹.

Other uncultivated land excluding fallow land.—This category of land includes permanent pastures and other grazing land, land under miscellaneous tree crops and groves not included in net area sown and cultivable waste. An area of 8 thousand hectares was under this category in 1977-78.

HARYANA LAND RECLAMATION AND DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION LIMITED

It was established in March, 1974 with its registered office at Chandigarh. The main objectives of this corporation include reclamation

1. According to Forest Department the area under forests in 1977-78 in the district was 8,157 hectares.

of alkaline and saline land and levelling, grading and shaping of uneven and undulating land in Haryana. A part of the Mahendragarh district has uneven topography. The corporation has set up Regional Manager's Office at Bhiwani and a Manager's Office at Mahendragarh.

More than 19,945 hectares of area is uncultivable in the district. Out of it, 2,500 hectares is covered by the sand-dunes. The landowners are keen to get their land levelled and shaped so that they can utilise the irrigation resources to improve their economic conditions.

The tractors equipped with necessary implements needed for carrying out the job are operating in the Mahendragarh district on hire basis. In order to extend irrigation facilities in the district, an area of 280.3 hectares of land had been levelled up to March 31, 1978. The tahsilwise break-up is as under :—

Name of tahsil	Area levelled (hectares)	No. of families benefited (number)
(i) Mahendragarh	90	173
(ii) Rewari	18.6	62
(iii) Narnaul	163.7	257
(iv) Bawal	8.0	32
	280.3	524

The farmers are helped through loans from the primary land development banks and commercial banks and a sum of Rs. 1,30,000 has been paid to the farmers of this district as subsidy for land-levelling work. Technical staff such as Agriculture Inspectors of the Corporation posted with the Manager assist the farmers by rendering guidance in technical matters and in the execution of works. Under the International Development Agency Aid Scheme the Corporation has imported 65 tractors of 55 H.P. of David Brown make.

IRRIGATION

A successful agriculture in a state like Haryana with its peculiar problems without artificial application of water is not possible. About 5.5 lakh hectares land of the state bordering Rajasthan is almost completely arid. The rain-fall in this desert-like area is irregular and uncertain both in time and space. Most of the meagre amount of precipitation is lost by evaporation caused by high temperatures and absorption

by sandy surface. The result of these vagaries has been severe droughts and famine-like situation. This area contains either negligible amounts of ground water or exceedingly brackish water. Some places have brackish as well as lesser amount of ground water available at very deep levels. Absence of natural vegetation as a result of arid climate, high temperature and stormy winds lead to soil erosion on a mass scale. At the height of all this, the shifting sand dunes aggravated the situation. Besides, the Aravalli track in this zone with adverse slopes puts serious hurdles in the way of implementing normal means of irrigation.

Irrigation Facilities

The following are the main sources of irrigation in the district :—

1. Rainfall
2. Canals
3. Wells and tubewells
4. Bunds and Barrages

Rainfall.—Before Independence, it was the chief means of irrigation in the district. The agriculture was mainly dependent upon the mercy of nature. During the failure of rain, no cultivation could be done. After the creation of Haryana as a State, some other means of irrigation like canals/distributaries and bunds are being provided in the district.

Canals.—Mahendragarh district is one of the southern districts of Haryana. Topographically, the area comprises small hillocks as a part of Aravalli range and sand-dunes. There is no perennial stream in the district. As stated earlier, the rainfall is low, less than 20."

On account of its peculiar topography, i.e. rise in the country slope from North towards South, the district could not be included in the net-work of canals before 1975-76 as the area could not be considered fit for irrigation by way of gravity flow.

In the absence of abundant irrigational facilities, the economic backwardness of the region could not be removed. Keeping in view the economic backwardness and recurrence of drought, the government introduced scheme of lift irrigation for this area. As a part of the above scheme, the work on Jawahar Lal Nehru (JLN) canal was started in 1974-75.

JLN lift irrigation scheme envisages the supply of water for irrigation purposes up to the border of the Haryana state by successive lifts. Water is proposed to be lifted by the high capacity pumps in

stage of about 23 feet lift. The aggregate lift up to the remotest area of the district will be of the order of 467 feet.

The above scheme includes construction of JLN Feeder, JLN Canal, Dewana distributary, Mahendragarh Canal, Narnaul Branch and Mahendragarh distributary. The JLN Feeder which is 104-kilometre long channel, off takes from the tail of Delhi Parallel Branch at Khubru. The JLN Canal and Mahendragarh Canal take off at R.D. 3,43,100 of JLN Feeder and the discharge at this point is 2,990 cusecs. These channels comprising a net-work of 1,247 kilometres will become perennial when the supply of water from Satluz Yamuna Link Canal is made available. The canal will command a gross area of 3.12 lakh hectares.

Wells and Tubewells

The desert of the adjoining Rajasthan State encroaches the southern and western parts of the district. The Dohan, Sahibi and Krishnawati streams entering from Rajasthan are sources of groundwater recharge in addition to rainfall. The depth of water varies from 20 ft. (6.1 metres) in the western part. The movement of the water is from south-west to north-east. The rocks of Delhi system are exposed at several places and sand-dunes are very common. The bed rock is encountered at shallow depth in the south-western part of the district particularly in Nangal Chaudhry block. The quality of groundwater is fresh along the courses of streams.

Groundwater exploration was started in the district in 1958 by the Central Ground Water Board, Government of India, to locate the water bearing formations at deeper level and to determine the quality of groundwater. They drilled exploratory boreholes at Bhojawas, Bawana, Kanina, Gokalgarh, Jhabwas, Mahendragarh, Jarthal, Nangal Pathani, Masani, Darauli, Dahina, Jainabad and Khaliawas to a depth varying from 123 ft. (37.5 metres) to 610 ft. (185.9 metres). The boreholes in villages Darauli, Khaliawas and Dahina-Jainabad of tahsil Rewari were converted into production tubewells. The discharge varies from 14,500 to 55,800 USGPH (United States Gallons per hour) with drawdown¹ from 14 ft. (4.41 metres) to 38 ft. (11.7 metres). The boreholes in other villages were abandoned due to lack of granular zones.

The Haryana State Minor Irrigation (Tubewells) Corporation to whom the responsibility of groundwater exploration was entrusted by the state government, took up further exploration in the district in 1968.

1. Draw down is the difference between the pumping water level and the static water level.

In all, 41 exploratory boreholes were drilled, out of which 26 proved successful where exploratory tubewells were constructed. The successful bores are at Asraka Majra, Asalwas, Bharaf, Bachini, Bhojawas Bohatwas Bhondu, Dhar Chanan, Jhabwas, Kharkra, Kariya-I, Kariya-II, Kaimla, Lisan, Mahasar, Musepur, Mori-I, Mori-II, Nandrampur, Raipur, Sagarpur, Mohanpur, Rothal Garhi, Khatawali, Dharuhera and Khaliawas. The discharge from the tubewells varies from 17,000 to 47,000 USGPH with drawdown from 17 ft. (5.2 metres) to 62 ft. (18.9 metres).

As stated earlier the recharge into the groundwater body is mainly provided by the Dohan, Sahibi and Krishnavati streams apart from the limited recharge by rainfall seepage. Computations of groundwater recharge and draft components as on March 31, 1978, in different blocks of the district was evaluated by State Ground Board and the figures of groundwater balance are given below :—

Block	Total usable recharge	Total draft as on 31-3-78	Balance groundwater potential
	(Acre ft.)	(Acre ft.)	(Acre ft.)
Rewari	35,742	56,806	21,064 (Over draft)
Bawal	36,005	54,357	18,352 (Over draft)
Khole	28,042	43,182	15,140 (Over draft)
Jatusana	24,665	62,029	37,364 (Over draft)
Ateli	31,742	35,706	3,964 (Over draft)
Narnaul	34,099	37,555	3,456 (Over draft)
Nangal Chaudhry	28,528	24,131	4,397
Kanina	37,483	27,694	9,789
Mahendragarh	51,633	24,834	26,799

The above figures indicate that there is little scope for further exploitation of groundwater in Khole, Jatusana, Rewari, Bawal, Ateli and Narnaul blocks as there is already over draft in these blocks.

With the demarcation of fresh water boundary in the district, the groundwater potential can be usefully exploited for irrigation through tubewells and pumping sets.

Wells, though not on large scale, were the only source of irrigation in the district. Due to the quality and the depth of water, well

irrigation could not make much headway. After the introduction of diesel pumping sets and tubewells the well irrigation increased and in 1977-78 an area of 46 thousand hectares was under well irrigation. There were 22,478 pumping sets and shallow tubewells and 111 deep tubewells in addition to 177 masonry wells.

Tanks and Bunds

Another source of irrigation in the district is tanks and bunds. During rainy season, water is stored and later used for irrigation. A very small area less than 500 hectares is irrigated from this source.

The following table shows the area irrigated through different sources of irrigation in the district from 1973-74 to 1977-78 :

(Thousand Hectares)

Source	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
Government Canals	(a)	(a)	—	—	—
Tanks	—	—	—	—	—
Wells	1	2	—	1	(a)
Tubewells	45	43	42	42	46
Other sources	—	—	—	—	—
Total :	46	45	42	43	46
Percentage to net area sown	19.2	18.4	16.9	17.4	19

(a) means less than 500 hectares.

Flood Embankments and Marginal Bunds

Flood embankments and marginal bunds have been constructed to confine a stream in prescribed reach and to stop its water from flooding the adjoining area.

Three main streams, viz. the Sahibi, the Dohan and the Krishnavati enter the district from Rajasthan. All these cause floods in the rainy season and have been a source of damage in the district. Keeping in view the flood loss in the region, the Government of India decided to launch flood-control schemes. The efforts have been made to harness the water of these streams for the purpose of flood control and to utilise the flood water for irrigation. The details regarding bunds and barrages made for the above purpose are as under :—

Masani barrage.—The Sahibi *nadi* was the biggest menace of flooding in the district and the other adjoining areas. The floods in the year of 1977-78 caused a havoc in the area. The barrage at an estimated cost of 36 crore near the Masani village is under construction¹. This barrage will save the district from floods and it will provide irrigation to an area of 50,000 acres.

Hamidpur bund.—The Dohan stream enters the district from Rajasthan. To control the floods, this bund was constructed near Hamidpur village in the Narnaul tahsil in 1975. The bund is proposed to be augmented.

Another protection bund on the Dohan stream near Mahendragarh town was constructed in 1975. The protection bunds for villages—Lawan and Malra have also been constructed. It is proposed to canalize the excessive water of Dohan stream near Gulawala village (Mahendragarh tahsil).

The other bunds and flood protection schemes of local importance over the nullahs are given in the *Table III* of Appendix. These bunds have been constructed for the dual purpose of flood control and minor irrigation and are controlled by the Bunds and Investigation Division, Narnaul. Lastly, these have proved very useful for raising the sub-soil water level, sweetening the brackish water, basin irrigation and reclamation of land.

AGRICULTURE

Set-up of the Agriculture Department.—The Agriculture Department in the district is represented by the Project Officer, Integrated Dry Land Agricultural Development Scheme, Narnaul, who is responsible to the Director, Agriculture, Haryana, Chandigarh. He is assisted by 3 Agricultural Officers, one each at the three sub-divisional headquarters, Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari. For implementation of the Agricultural Production Programme, 8-10 Base Level Workers, viz. Agricultural Development Officers and Village Extension Workers have been provided in each of the 9 development blocks in the district.

The Agriculture Department guides the farmers in the latest technological advances in agricultural production. These include intensive methods of cultivation for higher production per unit area through new cropping pattern suited to their conditions. These also comprise preparation of crop plans, control of various pests and diseases affecting

1. The cost of project has been revised to Rs. 63.69 crore and is expected to be completed in the early years of the 7th Five-Year Plan.

agricultural crops and gardens, use of fertilizers and good seed, and laying out of demonstration plots to show to the cultivators the superiority of new varieties and agronomic practices recommended for the district. The Agricultural Development Officers impart training to the farmers in their respective areas.

Training of all the functionaries is organised. In every crop season, officers' workshop is held in Haryana Agricultural University (HAU), Hisar, for mutual discussions to solve field problems and to acquaint officials with the latest technology available at H.A.U. Immediately thereafter, a district training camp is organised for the benefit of the whole extension agency of Agriculture Department and the allied functionaries including Krishi Gyan Kendra. They are given training in latest technology and campaign strategy to be followed in the particular season. The training facilities are further extended in the area at various places—blocks and villages for the benefit of farmers. For intensifying training efforts, village to village mass contact programmes are organised through teams of extension agencies and Haryana Agricultural University experts. At the time of sowing, village to village demonstration programmes based on the full package of practices are conducted for main crops in both the seasons. A follow-up programme is also pursued to achieve maximum results. Necessary inputs like seeds, fertilizers and pesticides are made available at convenient supply points throughout the district. The farmers are given information for managing the crops throughout the growing season and field days are organised at harvesting time at various places to convince the farmers about the results of new practices. Efforts are also made on campaign basis for introduction of new crops (through demonstration) in newly covered irrigated areas. The students of local village schools are also involved in levelling of un-even fields and anti-ratting campaigns.

Soils

The soils of the district are highly deficient in organic matter and require heavy doses of manure for improving the fertility. But heavy manuring is not possible without abundant water-supply which is not still available. Wind erosion is most common feature. At many places, particularly in Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils, the soil is bedded with lime, *kankar*, stone and rock.

The soils of the district can be sub-divided into the sandy, the loamy sand, the relatively sandy loam and the light loam. The soil cover is sandy in the western part of the Mahendragarh tahsil and loamy sand in Narnaul tahsil. These soils are locally known as *Bhur*

and *Rausli* respectively and subject to excessive wind erosion and to outlaying by drifting sand cover or aeolian sand. These suffer from the drawback of maximum permeability causing excessive drainage, a tendency to dry up rapidly and a low water holding capacity. These features cause limited crops like *bajra*, *guar*, barley and oil seeds to grow.

The soils of northeast of Mahendragarh tahsil and south-west of Rewari tahsil except its central part, are the relatively sandy loam. In the eastern and western parts of the Rewari tahsil, the poor fertility sandy soil is predominant and is locally known as *Bhur*. A big block of sandy loam with a tendency towards the light loam, locally known as *Magda* is found in the centre of the Rewari tahsil which is very productive. It needs little ploughing and readily retains moisture. It is very good soil for dry-farming and intensive agriculture may be done successfully.

Crops

The crops grown in the Mahendragarh district are divided into two main categories, viz. kharif and rabi locally named as *sawani* and *sadhi*. The former is the summer and rainy season sowing and the latter is winter sowing. Any crop which does not strictly fall in timing within these two harvests is known as a *zaid* crop and its harvest is called *zaid* kharif or *zaid* rabi according to the harvest with which it is assessed. *Toria*, an oil-seed, is cultivated as *zaid* kharif, vegetables, melon, moong, tobacco and green fodder as *zaid* rabi.

The major kharif crop of the district is *bajra* (spiked millet) which occupies about 50 per cent of the cropped area. The other kharif crops are *moong*, groundnut and *gwara*. *Gwara* is used entirely as a fodder crop. To grow *bajra* is good as this crop does well on sandy soils. Vegetables, onions, turnps and cucumber also deserve mention.

The major rabi crop is gram which occupies about 40 per cent of the cropped area. The other rabi crops are wheat, barley, rabi oil seeds and vegetables. Tobacco is grown in some villages of Khole, Kanina and Jatusana blocks. The tobacco is grown is of *hooka* variety.

Bajra, *gwara* and pulses (during kharif) are comparatively drought resistant and grow well in light soils. Similarly gram, oil-seeds and barely (during rabi) are also suitable for these soils as the flood water of the Sahibi stream is helpful to these crops in the Rewari sub-division. The high yielding varieties of wheat cover 20 per cent of the cropped area and are grown in irrigated areas. Groundnut cultivation has also been introduced in some parts of Rewari, Khole and Jatusana blocks. An area of about 500 acres is covered under this crop.

Some particulars about the crops grown in the district are given below :—

Name of the crop	Local name	Kind	Soils required	Time of sowing	Time of harvesting
Kharif Crops					
<i>Bajra</i>	<i>Bajra</i>	Foodgrain	Sandy, sandy loam, loamy and even sand-dune areas	June to July (first good soaking shower)	September
<i>Gwara</i>	<i>Guar</i>	Fodder	Sandy to sandy loam and loamy	July to middle of August	September to November
<i>Moong</i>	<i>Moong</i>	Pulse	Sandy to Sandy loam	June/ July	September
<i>Jowar</i>	<i>Jowar</i>	Foodgrain/ Fodder	Sandy loam and loamy	April to July	September
Groundnut	<i>Moongfali</i>	Oil-seed (cash crop)	Sandy to sandy loam	June/ July	October
Rabi Crops					
Wheat	<i>Gehun</i>	Foodgrain	Sandy loam to loamy	End of October to end of November	April
Gram	<i>Chana</i>	Pulse	Sandy, sandy loam and loamy	October	March
Barley	<i>Jao</i>	Foodgrain	Sandy loam to loam	Second week of October to November	End of March to April
<i>Sarson</i>	<i>Sarson</i>	} Oil-seed (cash-crop)	Sandy loam and loamy	October	March
<i>Raya</i>	<i>Raya</i>				
<i>Taramira</i>	<i>Taramira</i>				

The table below shows the production of principal crops in the district :

(Production of Principal Crops)
(Thousand tonnes)

Crops	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
Foodgrains					
Rice	—	—	—	(a)	—
Jowar	1	1	1	1	1
Bajra	130	20	80	85	8
Maize	—	(a)	—	—	—
Wheat	70	62	79	115	108
Barley	46	56	48	38	36
Gram	36	31	83	72	88
Pulses					
Mush	—	(a)	—	—	—
Moong	—	0.4	0.7	0.6	0.3
Massar	—	—	—	—	—
Other pulses	0.1	0.2	0.3	0.4	0.2
Oil seeds					
Groundnut	(a)	0.2	0.4	0.2	0.3
Rape and Mustard	8	31.0	8.0	11.0	12.0
Sesame	(a)	(a)	—	—	—
Linseed	—	0.1	—	—	—
Others					
Sugarcane (in terms of Gur)	—	(a)	—	—	—
Potatoes	—	(a)	—	0.1	0.1
Cotton (American Lint)	—	—	—	—	—
Cotton (Desi Lint)	—	(a)	—	—	—

(a) less than 50 tonnes

Cropping pattern.—The cropping pattern adopted in the district during 1972 to 1977 is given below :

Name of crop	Percentage of area under each crop					
	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Kharif						
<i>Bajra</i>	46	47	50	56	42	42
<i>Gwara</i>	12	12	14	13	6	7
Pulses	1	1	2	2	1	0.5
<i>Jowar</i>	1	1	2	2	1.5	1.5
Fallow	40	39	32	27	49.5	49
Total :	100	100	100	100	100	100
Rabi						
Wheat	14	15	14	16	16	15
Gram	43	42	36	42	33	35
Barley	10	12	15	13	6	6
Oil seeds	12	11	15	7	5	8
Fallow	21	20	20	22	40	36
Total :	100	100	100	100	100	100

Important crops are *bajra*, *gwara*, *jowar* and pulses in kharif and gram, wheat, barely and oil-seeds in rabi. In kharif *bajra* occupies 42 per cent of the total cropped area followed by *gwara* (7 per cent) and *jowar* (1.5 per cent). The percentage of area under kharif pulses is just 0.5 per cent signifying that farmers have not yet realised importance of these crops.

In rabi, gram occupies 35 per cent of the total rabi cropped area. It is generally grown under unirrigated conditions. Other unirrigated crops are rabi oil-seeds. There is a considerable fluctuation in the acreage under these crops depending upon rainfall pattern. The area under wheat reveals rising or consistent trend in comparison to barley although both are irrigated crops. This is due to the reason that wheat is more remunerative crop than barley.

Rotation of Crops

The district being largely *barani*, the choice for crop rotation is limited. About 20 per cent of the area is irrigated where farmers select crops for rotation and grow wheat and barley. The major *barani* crops during kharif are: *bajra*, *gwara* and kharif pulses (*moong*). Invariably these crops are followed by gram sowing in rabi. Where irrigation facilities are available pulses and *gwara* are followed by wheat and barley. Some area is kept fallow for the cultivation of oil-seeds. *Gwara* is a very good soil building crop and the crop which follows it is always good.

Fodder Crops

The main fodder crop is *Jowar*. It is grown during kharif and covers 2 per cent of the area. The cattle are fed on *bajra* (*karbi*) throughout the year due to non-availability of green fodder. During the years of poor rainfall when *bajra* crop also fails, stocked *Jand* leaves named as pala (*Cenchrus setigerous*) are used as fodder for the cattle. It is considered rich in food nutrients.

During rabi no fodder is grown in the district. Now the farmers are being encouraged to grow *barseem* and oats.

The area and production of fodder crops in the district from 1973 to 1977 was as under :

(Area in thousand hectares
Production in thousand Tonnes)

Year	Jowar		Bajra	
	Area (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)	Area (Hectares)	Production (tonnes)
1973	5	1	151	130
1974	4	1	133	20
1975	3	1	139	80
1976	5	1	140	85
1977	5	1	138	8

Dry Farming

Mahendragarh is a dry farming district and 80 per cent of its area is covered under it. In dry farming the production is low.

Bajra is the most efficient and remunerative crop during the year of normal or near normal rainfall. In a year of low rainfall *moong* is more remunerative than *bajra*.

Gwara is the most staple crop of the district under all conditions. It is most suitable for sowing under late conditions, if kharif sowings are delayed due to any reason.

The areas where moisture is conserved during kharif, better soils are put under oil-seeds and poor under gram. Oil-seeds respond better than gram under favourable moisture conditions. The crop varieties are as under:

Seed per Hectare	Crop	Variety	Optimum Sowing Time
5 Kg.	<i>Bajra</i>	PHB-14, BJ-104, HS-I, Local	First advent of monsoon under rainfed conditions, second fortnight of July
25 Kg.	<i>Gwara</i>	FS-227, Local	From April upto middle of July
20 Kg.	<i>Moong</i>	Hybrid-45, Varsha, S-9 P.Basakhi, Local	First week of July to first week of August
40 Kg. to 50 Kg.	Gram	G-24, C-214, H-208, Local	Middle October
5 Kg.	<i>Taramira</i>	Selection-A	October
5 Kg.	<i>Raya</i>	Parkash, R.L. 18, Varuna, T-59	First fortnight of October
5 Kg.	Rapeseed	B.S.H.-I, Local	End of September to first week of October
87 Kg.	Barley	C-138, BG-25, BG-105, Local	Second fortnight of October to mid of November

To conserve the moisture in the soil the field is levelled as far as possible and *bunds* are put around the field and individual plots. The ground is ploughed deep if there is hard layer below, and the surface soil is cultivated after every crust forming for quick absorption of rain water.

To decrease the evaporation losses, the surface soils are loosened as soon as field comes into working conditions after an effective rain and the weeds are thoroughly eradicated. The ridge and furrow system of cultivation across the general slope is followed and crop is planted in paired rows on ridges. Wherever feasible direct surplus water from plots on higher elevation to plots on lower elevation is provided to conserve moisture in the soil for use by the subsequent rabi crop.

Soils which have hard sub-soil is ploughed deep with reversible plough with the help of a tractor before the start of the monsoon for quick penetration and conservation of moisture. Except the Mahendragarh block the practice is followed in other parts of the district.

Attainment of uniform crop pattern is essential for getting a full expression of yield potential. Small seeded crops like *bajra* and *raya* often have patchy stands due to improper seeding techniques. Lister seeder drawn by tractor is used throughout the district to seed the kharif crops on ridges and rabi crops in the bottom of furrows.

The dry fields are ploughed and kept ready in the second half of June. Sowing is completed with the first shower of the monsoon. *Moong* is sown during third week of June to first week of July. *Bajra* is sown during first week to third week of July. When the sowing is delayed beyond third week of July, the *bajra* is sown during a wet spell. *Gwara* sown in April upto middle of July is planted in rows 30 centimetres apart in place of 45 centimetres apart. If the rains are delayed beyond middle of July, *bajra* or *gwara* is sown in dry soil in paired 30 centimetres apart on ridges with soil cover of approximately 1 to 1.5 centimetres. Space between the plants in *bajra* field is filled by transplanting seedlings up-rooted from densely growth places. Inter-culture with blade type *kasola* is carried out after every crust forming shower till the crop covers the ground. For the success of the crops timely plant protection measures are carried out.

Regional Research Station, Bawal (Haryana Agricultural University).—

It was established in 1978 by the Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, to find out ways and means to solve the problems of farming community and to increase agricultural production in Mahendragarh district. There was a small centre at Bawal to cater to the needs of southern tract of the State, which as a whole is semi-arid and extensive sand-dunes in the south-west. In 1978, this centre was conducting preliminary research on development of production technology for dry areas, identification of suitable varieties of crops like *bajra*, gram, mustard and rapeseed. Some preliminary work on vegetables and fruits of the semi-arid regions

was also taken up. The experts of the station conduct research and advise the farmers on problems pertaining to field crops and fruit production, diseases, soil management, water management, lay out of irrigation systems, working out most economic crop rotation and farm plans, livestock and poultry diseases, with particular emphasis on raising crops under deficient rainfed conditions.

The Research Station, Bawal, has been strengthened as a sub-station under the National Agricultural Research Project, with the addition of scientific manpower and physical facilities. The Research Station, Bawal, has developed and released improved varieties of barley: C 164, C 138, BG 25 and BG 105. All except BG 105 are suitable for normal sowing conditions. BG 105 is late sown variety. C 138 is suitable for barani areas while C 164 and BG 25 for irrigated areas. New varieties, namely: Sarson BSH-I, Raya Parkash and Groundnut C 501 and MH-I have also been recommended for the district. Research to evolve improved varieties of gram, *bajra* and wheat is being done by the experts of the Research Station. The station has demonstrated that vegetables such as *bhindi*, *ghiya*, *tori* and *sem* can be successfully grown under rainfed conditions. Fruits, i.e. guava, *phalsa*, pomegranate and *ber* are being popularised by developing suitable management practices.

Krishi Gyan Kendra Narnaul (Haryana Agricultural University).— Department of Agriculture, Punjab started a Farm Advisory Service Scheme in March, 1961 for the district of Mahendragarh at Narnaul¹. From 1963, the scheme was transferred to the Punjab Agricultural University wherein four District Extension Specialists in the disciplines of Horticulture, Plant Protection, Agronomy and Soil Sciences were posted. From 1966 another specialist in the discipline of Farm Management was posted. After the bifurcation of the Punjab Agricultural University and creation of Haryana Agricultural University in 1970-71, specialists in the field of Animal Sciences, Veterinary Science and Agricultural Engineering were also posted. During the year 1970-71 the farm advisory service scheme was named as Krishi Gyan Kendra which has become popular in the district.

The objective of the institute are to disseminate the latest technology in the fields of agriculture and livestock farming to the rural people, field evaluation of research findings and to provide a feed-back to the scientists about the field problems. The dissemination of knowledge is done by organising demonstrations, training camps, campaigns, exhibitions

1. Krishi Gyan Kendra was shifted to its own building at Mahendragarh on October 6, 1981.

and film shows. Field days on different crops in respect of adoption of package of practices, cattle shows, vegetable shows and calf rallies are arranged throughout the Mahendragarh district and best animals/crops and crop products are awarded prizes to foster a sense of competition among farmers. The farmers of the district are apprised of the results based on the latest agricultural technology developed by the university scientists from time to time as a result of which the agricultural production has increased throughout the district.

In 1975, University adopted five villages, *i.e.* Salarpur Bhojawas, Totaheri, Akbarpur and Dhani Bhathotha under its village adoption programme. The dissemination and adoption of different practices related to agriculture and animal husbandry has resulted in lot of development in these villages which have served as a model for the surrounding villages and other areas.

Recommended steps for Improving Agriculture Land

The introduction of flow irrigation from canals which is likely to commence with the availability of water supply from Satluj Yamuna Link Canal, will increase the erosion intensity and lower the fertility status of the soil by the removal of top soils. Keeping in view the slopes of an area, the land levelling should be carried out to increase the efficiency of canal water and ensure uniform irrigation. The area having 3 to 5 per cent slope and above is uneconomical for levelling and the area having below 3 per cent slope should be levelled. In sandy loam area one per cent slope should be maintained for the surface irrigation.

The area, which is either level or is levelled should be irrigated with check plot or furrow method of irrigation. The areas which are either sandy or have slopes greater than 3 to 5 per cent should be irrigated with sprinklers. For rabi crops irrigation is done by minor irrigation units, *i.e.* tubewells, pumping sets and wells. Sprinkler irrigation has been adopted by a large number of farmers in Mahendragarh and Kanina blocks.

The number of watering and fertilizer requirement of major crops are as follows.:

Crop	Number of watering	Doses of fertilizer (Kilogram per hectare)		
		Nitrogen	Phosphate	Potash
1	2	3	4	5
<i>Bajra (desi)</i> <i>(barani)</i>	One-two (for the normal year during September)	35	—	—

Bajra (hybrid) (Irrigated)	One or two (for the normal year during September	120	60	—
Wheat (<i>Desi</i>) Irrigated	Three (35, 65 and 105 days after sowing)	60	30	13
Wheat (High Yielding) Irrigated	Three (35, 65 and 105 days after sowing <i>i.e.</i> critical stage)	120	60	30

The lift canal system is under way and has not yet started supply of water. Presently the only source of irrigation is minor irrigation units. In 1977-78, there were 22,478 pumping sets and tubewells. The method of irrigation is either flow basin, or sprinkler. The crops irrigated are wheat, barley and sometimes oil-seeds.

Horticulture

Area under horticulture in the district is limited. The district is known for its *ber* fruit (*Chawara Ber*) which is very sweet. Recently under Applied Nutrition Programme/Drought Prone Area Project Programmes more area is being brought under *ber* trees. The area is also suitable for guava, *shahtoot*, *phalsa* and citrus. Narnaul, Nangal Chaudhry, Bawal, Rewari, Khole and Mahendragarh blocks are suitable for cultivation of *ber*, guava and citrus. An area of 20 hectares was under horticulture during 1977-78.

Vegetables

With the availability of irrigation water the area under vegetables is picking up. In 1975-76, 320 hectares of land was under vegetable cultivation. It increased to 455 hectares in 1977-78. The vegetables grown are onion, sweet potatoes, carrots and cucurbits. Farmers of Khole and Jatusana blocks are more interested in the cultivation of onions. Two Horticulture Inspectors, one at Narnaul and other at Rewari, give guidance to the cultivators in the plantation of fruit trees and vegetable cultivation. The extension programmes are conducted by the Agriculture Officers/Village Extension Workers who propagate horticulture alongwith other agricultural practices. The area under vegetables from 1975-76 to 1977-78 was as follows:

Year	Area under Vegetables (Hectares)
1975-76	320
1976-77	380
1977-78	455

Soil of the district except some areas of Mahendragarh and Kanina blocks is suitable for the cultivation of potato. But due to non-availability of cold storages, the areas under its cultivation is very limited.

Agricultural Implements

The old type implements commonly used by the farmers are :—

<i>Hal</i>	(plough)
<i>Jua</i>	(Yoke)
<i>Por, Orna, or nali</i>	(Seed drill made of strips of bamboo and held together by a long narrow piece of leather (<i>badi</i>) wrapped carefully round them. It is secured to the <i>hatha</i> or upright handle of the plough with its lower extremity just above the ground behind the <i>hal</i> and has a wide mouth into which the seed is put, and so drops through the <i>por</i> into the plough furrow).
<i>Kassi</i>	(Spade)
<i>Kuhari</i>	(An axe for cutting bushwood and <i>pala</i>)
<i>Gandasa or Gandasi</i>	(Choppers of different sizes)
<i>Jeli</i>	(Two-pronged, pitchfork, the fork is called <i>singar</i> and handle <i>nala</i>)
<i>Tangli</i>	(Three-pronged pitchfork)
<i>Kasola</i>	(Hoe with a long handle, <i>binda</i> , used for reaping and cutting grass)
<i>Khurpa</i>	(Short-handled spade or hoe for digging up grass by the roots)
<i>Sohaga</i>	(Flat board, used for harrowing by drawing it over the ground)
<i>Dandeli</i>	(Rake with 6 or 8 teeth used for collecting cow dung and making the ridges or <i>kiaris</i>)
<i>Chhaj</i>	(Winnowing basket)
<i>Gopia</i>	(Sling made of rope with which stones are thrown in order to scare away the birds which damage the crops when ripening)
<i>Gaddi</i>	(Cart)

Any improvement in agriculture is inconceivable without corresponding improvement in the implements used. Modern implements, popularised by the government through different schemes, are being gradually adopted by the farmers. A description of agricultural implements in common use is given below :

Plough .—The cultivator's most important implement is the plough (*hal* or *munna*). It refers primarily to the piece of wood shaped like a boot, into the top of which the pole (*hal*) and to the bottom of which a small piece of wood (*chou*) is fastened; the latter in its turn carries the pali or the iron plough share. The *hal* is perhaps the most important part of the plough as upon its weight and size depends the adaptability for ploughing various kinds of soil. In case of sandy soils it is light and is called *hal* whereas in the case of the firmer soils it is heavier and called *munna*.

In the light soil the ploughing of the fields is done with camels. The pole of the plough is fastened with a thong to a curved piece of wood called *pinjni* which again is strapped on to the back of the camel by the *tangar*, a sort of camel harness which is kept in its place by the *palan*, a small saddle on the camel's back.

This plough merely scratches the soil up to 4 or 5 inches. The chief defect in it lies in the fact that it leaves ridges of unploughed land between the V-shaped furrows which it makes. The plough also fails to eradicate weeds properly. In small land-holdings and non-contiguous plots, the plough is highly suitable. In 1977, there were 52,023 ploughs (51,296 wooden and 727 iron) in the district.

Tractor .—By and large cultivation is done with the help of animal power (camels and bullocks) although the tractor has also appeared on the scene. The number of tractors in use in 1973-74 was 135 which increased to 462 in 1977-78 .

Bullock/Camel Cart .—This is the usual load carrying device of the farmer. It is commonly used for carrying the farm produce to the threshing ground, grains to the homestead and surplus if any, to the market and for other transportation needs. The cart is fitted with iron wheels, wooden wheels or inflated tyre wheels. The carts are manufactured locally and are also purchased from other districts.

Ghani (oil-expeller) .—The number of *ghanis* increased from 1 in 1972 to 14 in 1977. These are mostly found in urban areas and big villages.

Sugarcane crusher .—It is used for crushing cane. It is made of wood or iron. There were 79 sugarcane crushers in the district in 1977.

Mechanised farming

There were about 462 tractors in the district owned by the farmers. The Haryana Land Reclamation and Development Corporation which is a State government undertaking is also extending help to the farmers in mechanised farming. The Haryana Agro Industries Corporation had a service centre at Rewari, but it has now been closed.

Seeds

Better varieties of seed enhance considerably the yield of agricultural produce. The Agriculture Department concentrates on multiplying and distributing improved seeds to farmers. The better yielding varieties of seeds are : —

Kharif varieties

Bajra Hybrid No.3, PHB-14, BJ-104

Moong Varsha, H-45, Puro Baisakhi

Gwara F.S.-227

Groundnut Pb. No. 1

Rabi varieties

Wheat C-306, K. Sona and Sonalika, WH-147, HD 2009

Barley C-164, C-138, BG-25, BG 105

Raya R.L.-18, Parkash, Raya Varuna

Sarson B.S.H.-1

Taramira Selection No. 1

Toria I.T.S.- A, Sangam

Gram G. 130, H 208, C 214

There are government agricultural seed farms at Gokalpur (Narnaul tahsil), Rampura, Tehna Depalpur, Dulhera Kalan (Rewari tahsil) and Mahendragarh (Mahendragarh tahsil) where improved seeds are grown for distribution among the cultivators. These, however, meet the demand only partly. The farms at Rampura (Rewari tahsil) are on

barani land. A few other details of the farms are as under :—

Seed Farm	Year of Establishment	Area (approximate)	Crops Sown for Seed
		(Hectares)	
1. Rampura	April, 1958	10	Gram, Oil-seed, <i>Gwara</i>
2. Tehna Depalpur	January, 1959	10	Barley, Oil-seed
3. Gokalpur	December, 1959	9	Wheat, Gram, Oil-seed, <i>Gwara</i>
4. Dulhera Kalan	April, 1968	9	Wheat, <i>Gwara</i> , Oil-seed
5. Mahendragarh	October, 1976	10	Wheat, Oil-seed

The varieties of improved seeds of principal crops distributed by the Agriculture Department and the area under improved varieties in the district during 1973-74 to 1977-78 were as follows :—

Year	Improved Seeds Distributed (Tonnes)			Area under Improved Varieties (Thousand hectares)		
	Bajra	Wheat	Gram	Bajra	Wheat	Gram
1973-74	29.00	133.00	29.00	20	35/21	30
1974-75	30.30	20.30	50.00	38	35/21	35
1975-76	68.70	74.90	42.70	16	39/24	40
1976-77	21.60	162.00	144.30	20	53/32	38
1977-78	—	299.00	220.00	—	50/40	55

Manures and Chemical Fertilizer

Next to water and improved seed, manure and chemical fertilizers are the most important inputs for increasing crop yields. In recent years, although the use of manures and fertilizers has increased considerably in advanced areas of the State, yet the efforts to increase the soil fertility by the farmers of the Mahendragarh district with chemical fertilizers are limited due to the absence of irrigation facilities. Still the farmers are conscious of the fertility maintaining factors by keeping the land fallow and to use farmyard manure. They also adopt the method of crop rotation to maintain soil fertility.

Manures.—In the villages, cow dung is still extensively used as fuel in preference to its use as farmyard manure. The State Government is popularising *gobar* gas plant by which the use of cow dung as fuel will be minimised. The *gobar* gas plant is a source of good farmyard manure as well as a source of fuel for cooking. It has made cooking easy for a house wife. By 1975-76, 913 *gobar* gas plants had been installed in the district and this number increased to 938 in 1977-78.

Extension education for compost making has also been intensified for proper use of dung and farm wastes. Regular campaigns are organised by the Agriculture Department to push up this programme. The compost prepared by the municipalities is utilised by the farmers in the vicinity of towns for growing vegetables.

Chemical fertilizers.—Distribution of fertilizers is done by the Haryana Agricultural Marketing Federation through agricultural marketing societies. As the use of chemical fertilizers has recently gained attention of the farmers with the increase of minor irrigation units in the district, the number of societies and sub-depots have been supplemented by stocking the fertilizers in the circle of an Agricultural Development Officer. The supply of fertilizers to the distribution points is regulated by the Project Officer, Integrated Dry Land Agricultural Development Scheme by co-ordinating this programme between extension agency and supply agency, i.e. HAFED and marketing societies. Under this programme fertilizers are made available to the farmers at the nearest possible place. The following figures show the distribution of chemical fertilizers among the farmers of the district from 1972-73 to 1977-78 :

Year	Chemical Fertilizers Distributed (Tonnes)		
	Nitrogenous	Phosphatic	Potash
1972-73	8,35.60	26.60	6.00
1973-74	1,850.00	120.00	31.00
1974-75	2,097.00	49.17	45.10
1975-76	2,649.00	138.00	13.00
1976-77	2,921.00	174.00	11.00
1977-78	3,482.00	364.00	48.00

Agricultural Pests and Diseases

The crops are occasionally exposed to damage due to diseases and pests. Downy mildew in hybrid *bajra* and wilt in gram are the two most serious crop diseases. The only control measure for wilt is to find a resistant variety which so far has not been evolved. Roguing of diseased plants immediately after appearance of the pest, along with one or two sprays with Miltox/Blitox Dithane M. 45 and Blitox are effective control measures against downy mildew. Efforts have been made to evolve a resistant variety of hybrid *bajra* against downy mildew.

Amongst the other insects and pests is *katra* (hairy caterpillar) which attacks all kharif crops during the rainy season. It causes serious damage to *bajra* and *moong* crops at early stage. This insect can only be controlled by blanket BHC 10 per cent dust in the early stages and by Endosulphon Thiodan sprays at later stages.

During certain years, aphids, mustered saw fly and painted bug cause damage to rabi oil-seeds. These can be controlled by BHC 10 per cent dust, Malathion/Metasyston and Dimecron sprays.

Rats are very serious pests for wheat, barley and gram. These are controlled by feeding baits poisoned with zinc phosphide/strychnine hydrochloride/Ratifin and fumigation with Celphos tablets. Stored grain pests like *dhora*, *khapra*, lesser grain borer and rust red flour beetle also destroy a large quantity of grains. These are controlled effectively by fumigating the stores, containers (grain bins/gunny bags) with Celphos Malathion and Methylene Bromide.

The Agriculture Department educates farmers regarding different control measures to reduce damages to crops. Moreover the department has been authorised to take legal action under the East Punjab Agriculture Pests, Disease and Noxious Weeds Act, 1949, against the farmers who do not eradicate weeds, pests and diseases before the maturing of crops. Fumigation work is being done by the department on a large scale through specially recruited staff for the purpose.

Agricultural Co-operatives

The small land-holdings are not economic units. It is through co-operative farming that the scanty resources of the agriculturists can be pooled, thus bringing to them the gains of large scale intensive farming. Through co-operative marketing, the erosion of profits to middle-men can be checked and higher dividends secured. Increased agricultural production depends on several significant inputs which include the provision of timely and adequate credit, supply of chemical fertilizers,

improved seeds, insecticides, pesticides and facilities for marketing agricultural produce as well as storage arrangements. It is only through agricultural cooperatives that the farmers get all these facilities in time and in a reasonable manner.

The total number of cooperative societies of all types and their membership was 635 and 1,05,679 respectively on June 30, 1976. The societies comprised 237 agricultural co-operatives, 308 industrial co-operatives and 90 other cooperatives. By June 30, 1978, their number increased to 719 having membership of 1,35,630. The societies comprised 372 agricultural cooperatives, 279 industrial cooperatives and 68 other cooperatives. The agricultural co-operatives included :

Type of society	Number as on	
	June, 30, 1976	June 30, 1978
(a) Agricultural Credit Service	172	155
(b) Central Cooperative Banks	2	2
(c) Primary Cooperative Land Development Banks	3	3
(d) Joint Farming	17	17
(e) Marketing	5	5
(f) Dairy & Milk Supply	38	190
Total :	237	372

For meeting requirements of credit, chemical fertilizers and consumer goods, there were 617 agricultural credit societies with a total membership of 68,468 on June 30, 1974. A number of these societies were not found viable. These were, therefore, amalgamated with bigger ones. The result was that by June 30, 1975, the total number of these societies decreased to 563, but the membership increased to 73,155. Again the number of societies decreased to 154 with membership of 74,146 on June 30, 1976. The number of societies was the same but the membership increased to 83,888 on June 30, 1977. On June 30, 1978 the number of societies was 155 with a membership of 87,895. The table below gives data regarding the amount of loan advanced, the number of sub-depots through which agricultural credit societies distributed chemical fertilizers, the quantity of chemical fertilizers distributed

and the value of consumer goods supplied by these societies from 1974-75 to 1977-78 :

	Loan Advanced	Sub-Depots in the District	Chemical Fertilizers Distributed	Consumer Goods Supplied
	(Rs. in lakhs)	(Number)	(Metric tonnes)	(Rs. in lakhs)
1974-75	279.37	38	3.60	3.19
1975-76	342.36	48	4.70	5.20
1976-77	490.87	24	1371	8.77
1977-78	529.76	28	1691	12.41

The Mahendragarh Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Mahendragarh, which started functioning from February, 1954 advances short-term and medium-term credits to the various types of co-operatives. It advanced loans during 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 amounting to Rs. 104.94 lakh, Rs. 117.94 lakh, Rs. 211.31 lakh and Rs. 268.63 lakh respectively. Its membership on June 30, 1974 was 524 with owned funds (share capital) amounting to Rs. 11.67 lakh and working capital of Rs. 197.17 lakh. The total amount of deposits held by the bank amounted to Rs. 41.12 lakh. Similar figures at the end of June, 1975, June, 1976, June, 1977 and June, 1978 were as follows :

	At the end of			
	June, 1975	June, 1976	June, 1977	June, 1978
(a) Membership (Number)	505	265	261	255
(b) Owned funds, i.e. share capital (Rupees in lakh)	38.44	42.68	43.75	43.94
(c) Working capital (Rupees in lakh)	207.05	178.10	210.10	487.83
(d) Deposits (Rupees in lakh)	53.08	68.07	55.99	309.20

The *Brayne* Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Rewari, has been functioning since October, 1922. It advances short-term and medium-term credits to various types of co-operative societies. It advanced a sum of Rs. 249.77 lakh, Rs. 276.85 lakh, Rs. 425.97 lakh

and Rs. 386.75 lakh during 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78 respectively. Its membership on June 30, 1974 was 449 with owned funds (share capital) amounting to Rs. 52.15 lakh and working capital of Rs. 149.75 lakh. The amount of deposits held by the bank amounted to Rs. 53.97 lakh. The figures at the end of June, 1975, June, 1976, June, 1977 and June, 1978 were as follows :

	At the end of			
	June, 1975	June, 1976	June, 1977	June, 1978
(a) Membership (Number)	533	250	249	236
(b) Owned funds, i.e. share capital (Rupees in lakh)	39.31	39.31	45.30	45.50
(c) Working Capital (Rupees in lakh)	190.50	245.66	324.77	422.32
(d) Deposits (Rupees in lakh)	65.67	78.14	108.68	101.08

The long term credit requirements of the cultivators for sinking tubewells, purchase of tractors, land, etc. are met with by three Primary Co-operative Land Development Banks (one each at Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Rewari) which had a membership of 14,201 with share capital of Rs. 32.24 lakh on June 30, 1975. During 1974-75, 1975-76, 1976-77 and 1977-78, the banks advanced long term credit amounting to Rs. 83.01 lakh, Rs. 69.45 lakh, Rs. 96.79 lakh and Rs. 64.38 lakh, respectively.

Joint farming/collective farming societies in the district were organised during 1965-66 under a pilot project scheme in order to secure gains of large-scale farming without losing individual proprietorship in land. Government provides financial assistance to such societies and gives various concessions. The co-operative farming societies could not meet with success. There were 16 Joint farming and one collective farming societies in the district on June 30, 1975 with a membership of 532. In 1975-76, there was no change in number of societies as well as in membership. During 1976-77 and 1977-78, strength of the societies remained the same but the membership increased to 574. At present all the joint farming societies are lying defunct and the scheme has not been successful in the district.

The marketing societies supply fertilizers, improved seeds and agricultural implements to the agriculturists. On June 30, 1974, there were 5 marketing societies with a membership of 2,318 and working

capital amounting to Rs. 20.12 lakh. The information at the end of June, 1975, June, 1976, June, 1977 and June, 1978 was as follows :—

	June, 1975	June, 1976	June, 1977	June, 1978
(a) Number of Societies	5	5	5	5
(b) Membership (Number)	2,401	2,292	2,633	3,723
(c) Share Capital (Rupees in lakh)	3.28	3.39	3.41	4.25
(d) Working Capital (Rupees in lakh)	41.62	36.96	31.33	38.35

ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

The Animal Husbandry Department in the district is represented by the District Animal Husbandry Officer¹, Narnaul. He is responsible for all kinds of livestock development activities, such as cattle breeding, artificial insemination, control of the outbreak of contagious diseases, improvement of livestock and provision of veterinary aid. He is assisted by 23 Veterinary Assistant Surgeons², 31 Stock Assistants, 32 Veterinary Compounders and other miscellaneous staff.

Livestock Population

The district was noted for bullocks and goats, the bulls for breeding were imported. Camels were generally kept and were used for ploughing and riding.

The district is fairly rich in livestock which include cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats, pigs, camels and others. The people of drought prone areas also depend on livestock. In bad years, animals being mobile can be taken away thus retaining some capital and means of survival for the family. The livestock population as per 1972 Livestock Census and 1977 Livestock Census is given below :

	Number (in lakh)	
	1972	1977
Cattle	1.52	1.33
Buffaloes	1.70	1.70
Sheep	0.45	0.49
Goats	0.61	0.77
Pigs	0.04	0.03
Camels	0.23	0.22
Poultry	0.09	0.18
Others	0.09	0.08

1. In 1981, the Deputy Director, Animal Husbandry was made the incharge of the department in the district.
2. The designation was changed to Veterinary Surgeon with effect from April, 4, 1978.

The cattle and buffaloes population which numbered 3.22 lakh in 1972 accounted for 69.4 per cent of the total livestock. Female population of cows and buffaloes in 1972 was 0.57 lakh and 0.88 lakh respectively. The cattle and buffaloes population decreased to 3.03 in 1977. It accounted for 65.6 per cent of the total livestock. The female population of cows and buffaloes in 1977 was 0.49 lakh and 0.84 lakh respectively. Their relative figures vis-a-vis those of males were :

(Figures in lakh)

		1972		1977	
		Cows	Buffaloes	Cows	Buffaloes
Males above 3 years	Breeding bulls	0.00 (a)	0.00 (a)	0.00 (a)	0.00 (a)
	Others	0.32	0.01	0.33	0.00 (a)
Females above 3 years	In Milk	0.34	0.63	0.28	0.56
	Dry	0.20	0.20	0.18	0.22
	Not calved even once	0.03	0.05	0.03	0.05
	Others	—	—	—	—
Calves below 3 years	Males	0.26	0.20	0.21	0.20
	Females	0.37	0.61	0.30	0.65

(a) means less than one thousand.

Cattle and Buffaloes.—Cows and buffaloes play an important role in rural economy and agricultural operations. The district is known for Murrah and Haryana breeds. Haryana cow is reared generally for its male produce, the bullock, which fetches premium price. The Murrah buffalo is famous for high milk-yield and is the main milch animal of the district. To increase the milk production and working efficiency of the cattle, a Key Village Scheme was evolved. The scheme envisages systematically planned method for the best utilisation of superior germ plasm obtained from superior stock throughout the district. The technique of artificial insemination is used to maximise utility of available number of approved bulls. Controlled breeding has been progressively brought through removal of all scrub bulls. To up-grade the low milk yielders, Haryana bulls known for their quality are being extensively used for breeding. To provide breeding facilities 4 artificial insemination

centres with 24 breeding centres are at work. The figures of artificial insemination done and calves born from 1973-74 to 1977-78 are as follows :—

Year	Artificial Insemination Done		Calves Born	
	Cows	Buffaloes	Cows	Buffaloes
1973-74	644	1,918	182	498
1974-75	2,669	2,777	399	798
1975-76	3,796	1,229	594	1,099
1976-77	2,054	2,713	593	308
1977-78	2,062	2,755	415	273

Sheep and Wool Development.—According to 1977 Livestock Census, the sheep population in the district was 0.49 lakh. There is good scope for the development of sheep and wool industry. Sheep provide meat for food, wool for clothes, skin for industrial enterprise and manure for agriculture. The number of sheep is large but all are not high wool yielders. To bring improvement in sheep stock, 4 sheep and Wool Extension Centres at Pali (tahsil Mahendragarh), Nangal Durgo and Kanwi (tahsil Narnaul) and Khole (tahsil Rewari) are functioning. These centres keep superior rams to fulfil the breeding needs of the breeders during tugging season and are taken back after the season is over. Apart from this facility, veterinary aid and other sheep husbandry facilities are also provided. The dry climate of the district coupled with prevalence of sub-mountainous region provides most ideal conditions for sheep rearing as grazing grounds are available and occurrence of outbreak of contagious diseases is minimum.

Piggery.—According to the Livestock Census 1977, the pig population is 0.03 lakh. However there is no government owned or private piggery farm. Pigs are reared by weaker sections of the society. The breed is indigenous and the animals are poor in constitution. The yorkshire pigs from Government Pig Breeding Farms, Ambala and Hisar are supplied to the breeders at subsidised rates for improvement of local inferior quality pigs. The veterinary hospitals and dispensaries attend to the work of disease control of pigs and impart technical education for establishing pig farms.

Camels.—There were 0.22 lakh camels in 1977. The camel is used for ploughing, transportation of goods through camel carts and for riding.

Animal Diseases

The common diseases affecting the livestock in the district are haemorrhage septicaemia, *galgotu*, foot and mouth (*muh khur*), black quarter, rinderpest, surra, sheep pox, caprine pleuro-pneumonia, haemoglobinuria, pica and stringhalt. These diseases generally appear due to unhealthy surroundings and drinking of unhygienic water by animals. With prophylactic vaccination, haemorrhage septicaemia, rinderpest, foot and mouth, black quarter, surra and sheep pox have been brought under control. Camels are very susceptible to surra and sufficient quantity of medicine is stocked in veterinary hospitals and dispensaries. Pica in camels and haemoglobinuria in buffaloes which caused high mortality in these animals in the past are now successfully treated. Springhalt affects camels more than the cattle. Surgical treatment developed by the Haryana Agricultural University has proved very successful.

The Haryana Agricultural University Hisar, provides animals disease investigation and diagnostic service to the field veterinarians and livestock owners of the district. The field veterinarians carry out preventive and curative treatment. In case they fail to establish correct diagnosis of the disease outbreak in any species of livestock including poultry, the matter is referred to the disease investigation staff of the University. The Disease Investigation Officer examines the affected animals, carries out post-mortem examination on the carcass of dead animal to detect disease and conducts laboratory examination to establish a correct diagnosis of the disease affecting the animals. Suitable preventive and curative treatment is recommended to control the disease.

Veterinary Hospitals.—In the wake of livestock development programme, the subject of disease control, for combating various contagious and non-contagious diseases, assumes great importance. At the time of formation of Haryana, there were 8 veterinary hospitals and 21 veterinary dispensaries in the district. In 1977-78, there were 20 veterinary hospitals, 12 veterinary dispensaries, 1 veterinary mobile unit, 4 artificial insemination centres, 24 stockman centres, 2 veterinary checkpoints, one rinderpest eradication party and 4 sheep centres for providing treatment and breeding facilities. The list may be seen in Table IV of Appendix.

A veterinary hospital functions under the charge of a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon assisted by a Veterinary Compounder or a Stock Assistant and other class IV attendants. A veterinary dispensary is run by a Veterinary Compounder with the help of class IV attendants. An artificial insemination centre is run by Veterinary Assistant Surgeon assisted by a Stock Assistant and class IV attendants. A stockman centre

is run by a Stock Assistant with the help of class IV attendants. A sheep centre is run by a Stock Assistant with other class IV attendants. A check post, is manned by a Veterinary Assistant Surgeon. At the Check Post of Nizampur/Ateli all the incoming cattle from Rajasthan and outgoing cattle are vaccinated against deadly contagious rinderpest disease. The Veterinary Assistant Surgeons, Stock Assistants or Veterinary Compounders apart from attending cases brought to a veterinary hospital/dispensary treat the sick animals during regular tours and administer prophylactic vaccination. Undesirable bulls are castrated.

At the time of droughts/floods preventive vaccinations are administered to the animals by the veterinary staff visiting the affected areas. Sick animals are treated and deworming of animals against the deadly parasites are done by the officials on the spot.

Slaughter Houses.—The district has recognised slaughter houses at Narnaul, Rewari and Mahendragarh. The animals (goats, sheep and pigs) in the slaughter houses are inspected by the Veterinary Assistant Surgeons before and after their slaughter to ensure that the meat being made available for human consumption is hygienic and free from disease. The meat is consumed locally. From the year-wise number of animals slaughtered as given below, it is evident that the consumption of meat is on the increase:

<u>Year</u>	<u>Animals slaughtered</u>
1973—74	5,299
1974—75	7,456
1975—76	8,504
1976—77	9,605
1977—78	7,327

Poultry Development.—The poultry population according to the 1977 Livestock Census was 0.18 lakh. One day old chicks of white leghorn produced at the Government Poultry Farm, Ambala, are made available to the breeders at subsidised rates. The veterinary hospitals and dispensaries impart education in poultry breeding with the latest techniques and help in setting-up poultry farms. Mass vaccination, debeaking and deworming are also carried out by these institutions.

Problem of Stray Animals.—The state government has a cattle catching party to round up wild, stray and useless cattle which create problems

for the farmers. The panchayat approaches the Gaushala Development-cum-Cattle Catching Officer having headquarters at Chandigarh and a party is deputed to the affected area for rounding up the animals. Such animals are put to auction and the unsold are sent to *gosadan*. In the district there is a *gosadan* at Khole (Rewari tahsil) with a capacity of 30-35 animals where infirm, old and useless animals are housed till their natural death.

Gaushala Development .—According to the old concept, *gaushalas* were the institutions opened under religious sentiments to house the unproductive, infirm and useless cattle. These were run on charity. Considering the potentialities of these institutions, these were converted into cattle breeding cum-milk producing centres with financial assistance and technical guidance provided by the state government. There are four registered *gaushalas* in the district at Rewari, Bawal, Mahendergarh and Rampura. The income from the sale of milk and animals of the *gaushalas* is utilized in running these institutions which now also serve as breeding units.

Dairy Farming

Keeping in view the recurrence of drought conditions in the district, programmes for upgrading breed of milch animals and increasing of milk-yields were taken up by providing facilities of artificial insemination centres and stockman centres in the villages. A list of insemination centres is given in the Table V of Appendix. Two milk chilling centres at Narnaul and Jatusana were set-up for providing remunerative market for the surplus milk available with the farmers.

The Milk Chilling Centre, Narnaul which was set-up in 1977 has a capacity of 10,000 litres of milk per day. The milk collected at the centre is chilled and passed on to milk plants at Bhiwani, Rohtak and Ballabgarh for further processing. The cost of the project was Rs. 10 lakh approximately and Drought Prone Area Project, Narnaul provided a subsidy of Rs. 5 lakh for the project.

The Milk Chilling Centre, Jatusana, (Rewari tahsil) was set-up according to the 'Operation Food-I' programme by the National Dairy Development Board under the World Food Programme and was handed over to Haryana Dairy Development Corporation in 1978. This centre has a capacity of 20,000 litres of milk per day. These centres will be able to absorb increase in the surplus milk in future from the ancillary development programme of the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Departments. During 1977-78, the number of milk producers co-operative societies/direct collection centres which supplied milk to the milk chilling centres at Narnaul and Jatusana was 72 and 20 respectively.

FISHERIES

The Fisheries Development Officer, Bhiwani, looked after the department of fisheries in the Mahendragarh district during 1977-78¹. He was assisted by 2 Fisheries Officers, one Extension Assistant, one Field Assistant, 5 Fishermen, one Accountant and 2 Clerks. The Mahendragarh office was under the charge of a Fisheries Officer. The Fisheries Development Officer functioned under the administrative control of the Director of Fisheries, Haryana, Chandigarh. In the absence of abundant natural sources of fisheries in the district, little development of fisheries schemes was carried out up to 1978.

Fisheries conservancy programmes are activated with an object of preservation, production and augmentation of natural resources in public waters. The public waters in the district are : Sahibi stream, Kasauti stream, Dohan stream and Indori nala. Closed season is observed from 1st July to 31st August to provide chance to brooders to breed once in their life time. Fishing rights in public waters are auctioned every year on 1st September for one year. Fishing in these waters is regulated under the Punjab Fisheries Act, 1914. Management and control for leasing out fishing rights in streams and tributaries vest with the State Fisheries Department.

In the villages, the right of management and control of pond fisheries rests with the Panchayat. In Mahendragarh district some private parties have also taken up fish farming in their ponds.

Fish farming is very economical and viable project. A comprehensive project has been formulated for intensive development of fisheries in the district and 700 village ponds were surveyed by the department. An estimated area of 300 hectares of water will be made available for fish culture after proper renovation and reclamation. The details are as under :—

Name of the Block	Water to be brought under fish culture (Hectares)
Jatusana	50
Kanina	35
Nangal Chaudhry	30
Rewari	35
Narnaul	35
Ateli	35
Bawal	35
Khole	35
Mahendragarh	10

1. In 1980-81, a separate District Fisheries Development Officer was appointed for the Mahendragarh district. He was assisted by two Fisheries Officers, one each at Rewari and Narnaul supported by technical staff.

FORESTRY

The Mahendragarh Forest division was created on September, 1, 1961, covering Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Dadri tahsils. After the re-organisation of Mahendragarh district on December 22, 1972, this division covered Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Rewari tahsils. Its jurisdiction has been made co-terminous with the boundaries of the civil district. The division is under the charge of the Divisional Forest Officer (also called Deputy Conservator of Forests) with headquarters at Mahendragarh. He is assisted by 3 Range Forest Officers (Forest Ranger) in-charge of Mahendragarh forest range, Narnaul forest range and Rewari forest range. Other staff include 10 Foresters (Deputy Rangers) holding the charge of blocks and 51 Forest Guards (in-charge of beats). Range is co-terminous with the civil boundary of a subdivision of the district. The Divisional Forest Officer is under the administrative control of the Chief Conservator of Forests, Haryana, Chandigarh, through the Conservator of Forests, Haryana, South Circle, Gurgaon.

The area under forests is classified according to ownership, private and state. Forests owned by corporate bodies and private individuals are included under private forests. The state forests, on the basis of legal status are categorised as reserved, protected and unclassified. Reserved forests are permanently earmarked for the production of timber or other forest produce and in these the right of grazing and cultivation is seldom allowed. In protected forests, these rights are allowed subject to certain restrictions.

The following area was under forests in the district :

Classification of Forests 1	Area on March 31, 1976 2	Area on March 31, 1978 3
(A) State	(Hectares) 4,615.00	(Hectares) 5,263.00
Reserved		
(i) Salimabad	191.00	191.60
(ii) Kanti	(i) Salimabad 91.00	91.06
(iii) Jhabwas	(ii) Kanti 303.00	302.71
	(iii) Jhabwas	
	(iv) Nimbi	121.44
	(v) Duloth	70.01
	(vi) Kharoli	24.78
	(vii) Godania	65.56
	(viii) Sohla	264.26
	(ix) Budin	84.95
Total :	585.00	1,216.37

1	2	3
Protected		
(a) Compact areas		
(i) Bir Jatwas	6.00	6.07
	(i) Bir Jatwas	
(ii) Sohla	350.00	
(iii) Nimbi Duloth	281.00	
	<hr/> 637.00	<hr/> 6.07
(b) Strips		
(i) Rails	371.00	371.00
(ii) Roads	2,322.00	1,739.00
(iii) Canals (including drains and minors)	239.00	220.00
(iv) Bunds	52.00	52.00
	<hr/> 2,984.00	<hr/> 2,382.00
(c) Unclassed	409.00	1,659.00
(B) Private Forests		
Closed under section 38 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927	1,292.00	744.00
Closed under sections 4 and 5 of the Land Preservation Act, 1900	2,213.00	2,150.00
Grand Total :	8,120.00	8,157.00

The forests of this district mainly comprise waste strips on both sides of the roads, canals and railways, and private land closed under Section 38 of the Indian Forest Act, 1927 and Sections 4 and 5 of the Land Preservation Act, 1900.

These strips unfit for agricultural purposes are managed by the Forest Department for afforestation. The area of the forest closed under the Indian Forest Act, 1927 was voluntarily handed over by the owners to the Forest Department, partly for increasing the density of stock and partly as a soil

conservation measure. The area under sections 4 and 5 of the Land Preservation Act, 1900, was compulsarily closed in the interest of soil conservation.

The hill ranges are marked features of the district and provide natural meadows for animals. The district is short of good forests. Due to availability of *kana* grass, cottage industries of *ban*-making and *muddha*-making exist in the district.

Sand blowing caused by high velocity wind poses serious problems. The fertile soil particles, as a result of siltation are transported and scattered over long distances thus impairing soil fertility. In other situations coarse and infertile sand particles are carried away with the high velocity winds and dust storms and are deposited over fertile soil creating unproductivity. Thus the sand-blows threaten the agricultural economy. Research has established that a permanent vegetal cover brings substantial reduction in wind velocity and forms the foundation of entire programmes of agricultural development. The Mahendragarh Forest Division is engaged in the intensive implementation of the Desert Control Programme to halt the march of the desert from Rajasthan and to protect the economy of the district. Considering the deficiency of free growth and the problem of shifting sands, the policy of the Forest Department is to raise shelter belts and wind breakers for protective and production purposes and to meet the fuel requirements of the people. To make the farmers tree conscious, farm forestry has been introduced on a large scale in irrigated areas. The main projects are discussed below :

Fixation of sand-dunes.—The area affected by the active sand-dunes in the district is about 4,000 hectares. The advancement of the sand-dunes renders the cultivated lands infertile by accumulation of sand. These also block the roads and wells. Fixation of sand-dunes in the district is one of the main activities of the Forest Department which is being tackled by plantation of *kana* (*Saccharum munja*) and *Accacia tortilis*. These are the cheap methods of reducing wind velocity to control the movement of sand.

Raising of shelter belts.—The forestry schemes aim at afforestation of waste strips along rail, road and canals. Shelter belts perpendicular to the wind direction in the form of multiple rows are being raised along these strips so that these tree belts protect crops from the adverse effect of strong, hot and desiccating winds. A dense belt of trees against the strong sand bearing winds check velocity and thus the sand is accumulated towards the wind ward side instead of encroaching upon the cultivated lands on the leeward side.

Farm Forestry.—Plants are raised under this scheme on the south-western boundaries of cultivated fields to create wind breaks so that crops are protected from desiccating winds.

Pasture Development .—An acute shortage of fodder remains in the district. To overcome this problem under the Drought Prone Area Project, 'Pasture Development' Scheme has been introduced. Waste lands where coarse and unpalatable grasses were growing, are proposed to be converted into good quality pasture lands of nutritious and palatable grasses of *anjan* (*Cenchrus setigaris*). The yearwise work carried out is given below :—

Year	Pasture development	Beri-cum- pasture
	(Hectares)	(Hectares)
1975-76	10	—
1976-77	82	—
1977-78	150	71

Afforestation .—Afforestation and regeneration are essential parts of forestry in the district. Under the scheme waste and unproductive areas of panchayats and state forests are being put under valuable tree species.

Re-afforestation .—Under the scheme forests of less valuable species are being replaced by artificial plantations of more valuable species. The plantation is being done in Jhabwas Reserved Forest of Rewari Forest Range.

The forests must be raised and maintained constantly to protect the land from the ravages of erosion, to re-fertilize the soil, to arrest aridity and to improve upon the climate of the region. The following works have been carried out under different schemes in the Mahendragarh district :

Name of Works	Areas under Forest upto 1975-76	Area brought under forest during	
		1976-77	1977-78
1. Afforestation	1,234 Row Kilometres 378 Acres	300 Hect.	909 Hect.
2. Pasture development	129 Acres 166 Hectares	183 Hect.	150 Hect.
3. Sand-dunes fixation	1,219 Hectares	222 Hect.	508 Hect.
4. Shelter belts	1,242 Row Kilometres 96 Hectares	185 RKM	1,220 RKM
5. Wind breakers	1,378 Hectares	—	—
6. Improvement of water resources	28 Hectares	23 Hect.	52 Hect.
7. Treatment of Forest land	68 Hectares	10 Hect.	10 Hect.
8. Gully Plugging	45 Hectares	—	—

Forest produce is divided into two categories : major and minor. The major forest produce includes timber and fuel wood such as, *Jand* (*Prosopis cineraria*), *shisham* (*Dalbergia sissoo*), *kikar* (*Acacia nilotica*), *henna* (*Acacia tortilis*), *siris*, (*Albizia lebeck*), *neem* (*Azadirachta indica*), *bakain* (*Melia azadarach*) and mesquite or *pahari kikar* (*Prosopis juliflora*). Minor forest produce consists of *sarkanda* or *kana* (*Saccharum munja*) which is used for *muddha*-making, *ban* and thatches. *Acacia tortilis* is a good fuel wood and fodder species. *Jand* (*Prosopis cineraria*) leaves are good fodder for cattle during winter season. *Bad-beri* (*Zizyphus jujuba*) is used as agricultural wood and *pala* (*Zizyphus nummularia*) is used as fodder during winter. The following figures show the income derived from the sale of major and minor produce from 1973-74 to 1977-78 :

Year	Income from forest produce		
	Major (Rs.)	Minor (Rs.)	Total (Rs.)
1973-74	1,21,380	20,600	1,41,980
1974-75	1,03,589	65,810	1,69,399
1975-76	1,93,100	55,270	2,48,370
1976-77	1,99,920	95,444	2,95,364
1977-78	2,94,530	19,846	3,14,376

Forests have played a very important role in the economy of the district by providing timber wood for local requirement. *Shisham*, *rahera* and *kikar* are important species in the district.

Plantation of forests carried out by the Forest Department¹ has created enough scope of employment in forest works like raising of nursery stock, plantation work and protection of forest works. The forest-based industries have provided good scope for indirect employment. On an average, about fifty thousand persons get employment annually both directly and indirectly under various activities of the department.

FAMINES

The first famine was that of 1783 A.D. known as *Chalisa Kal* because it occurred in 1840 *Samvat*. This was terrible famine which lasted for more than two years. The people could not get grain and thousands died of absolute starvation and most of them left their homes. The next famine was in

1. Social Forestry Division with headquarters at Rewari having jurisdiction over three districts, viz. Mahendragarh, Bhiwani and Rohtak has come into existence during 1982 for carrying out Rs. 32 crore World Bank Aided Social Forestry Project.

1812-13 A.D. in Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils. Severe scarcity conditions prevailed in Rewari tahsil. In 1833-34 famine, the harvests failed and prices rose heavily. The year 1837-38 A.D. also brought famine and it was severe in Rewari tahsil but not so severe in Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils. In 1860-61, there was again a severe famine but relief measures were provided by the British Government in Rewari tahsil and Patiala State Government in Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils. The district suffered severely in 1877-78 famine which was widespread.

The district was free from severe famines for next two decades but was in grip of a severe famine in 1899-1900. The grain famine was aggravated by a fodder famine every where and about 281 villages of Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils were affected. In Rewari tahsil also the crops failed and loss of cattle was very heavy.

Though the district was under stress of scarcity and drought off and on, yet the famine of severity occurred in 1929-30 and 1930-31. In these years, the people were confronted with problems of fodder.

The famines of 1929-30 and 1930-31 were followed by the famine of 1939-40. In these years also the first problem was fodder. The district was worst affected and practically there was no sustenance from land.

After 1939-40, there has been no famine but scarcity conditions prevailed in the district off and on. Land revenue and recovery of *taccavi* loans were suspended and local relief work was undertaken to provide employment to the people of affected areas.

Now with better means of transport, government is well-equipped to cope with any emergency and food can be rushed immediately to the affected areas. On the completion of various development programmes particularly extension of irrigational facilities through a net-work of canals, tubewells/pumping sets, it is hoped that recurrence of famines would be prevented.

CHAPTER V

INDUSTRIES

OLD TIME INDUSTRIES

The district had no important industries beyond those that were carried on in villages to meet the ordinary wants of rural people. The usual village crafts like carpentry, blacksmithy, shoe-making, cloth-weaving, dyeing and oil pressing were carried on in almost every village. However, brassware and *pagris* of Rewari were well-known. Other manufactures in the district were silver cups, gold and silver buttons, nut-crackers (*sarotas*), painted bed legs, leather halters and bags, brass *hookahs*, lime, henna, *raths* and *majholis* at Narnaul; iron pans and spoons at Mahendragarh and *moorhas* at Rewari. The slates were quarried from a detached knot of hills near Khole and Majra-Bhalki in Rewari tahsil.

The only hand industry of the district which is of special importance is Rewari brassware, as to which the following note furnished by Mr. Lockwood Kipling, former Principal of the Lahore School of Art, is extracted from the old Gazetteer¹ :—

“At Rewari there is a large manufacture of brassware. The greater bulk consists, of course, of cooking utensils; but fancy articles involving chasing, engraving and parcel tinning are also produced and exported. The value of the articles produced in 1881-82 was estimated at Rs. 90,525. A selection from the brasswares usually sold was made for the Calcutta Exhibition by Mr. Christie of the Police, and included among some coarse and rough workmanship much that was good and characteristic. Lamps of different sorts, the standard shamadan and hanging lamps, cart-bells, inkstands and pen-cases, *hookahs*, temple-bells, and water vessels of different sorts, nearly all of which were in cast brass, made up the collection. Such ornament as was used was lightly chased and wanting in force and definition, and the finish left much to be desired. It must be remembered, however, that all these articles are intended to survive for a long time daily use by a rustic and heavy-handed people, and to be periodically scrubbed with sand and water. The construction of the cart-bell (*zang*) is curious, the mouth being closed by a number of leaf-like plates turning inwards and upwards from the rim, like the recurved petals of a

1. Gurgaon District Gazetteer, 1910, p. 148.

flower. This arrangement ought to produce a characteristic vibration which perhaps suggested the name *zang*. *Hookahs* are here made with ears or handles, parcel-tinned and engraved through the tin into the brass; like Moradabad ware, but without the black ground. The brass-wares of Rewari are sent to various parts of the Panjab and into Rajputana".

The trade was entirely in the hands of the *Kaseras*, the local name given to the sellers of the brass-work. They employed *thatheras* (brass-workers) for this work.

Rewari was an important centre of pagri-weaving and there were 500 looms at work. The chief manufacture was narrow *pagris* about 6 inch (15 centimetres) wide by 16 yards (14.6 metres) long which were exported to Punjab and Rajasthan for wear as under *pagris*. A wider *pagri* was also made.¹

Glass bangles and glue making were other important cottage manufactures of Rewari but these could not stand competition from Ferozabad (UP) and Madras respectively.

The district though rich in mineral wealth yet received very little attention towards exploitation of these minerals. There were only a few cottage industries for manufacture of slate, stone carving, marble dressing, etc.

On account of insufficient infrastructure in the district, the industrial development could not make much headway. It was limited to household industries in and around Rewari besides the few other industrial units. It was only after the formation of Haryana in 1966 that an infrastructure essential for the industrial development was created. All the villages in the district have been electrified and linked with towns through all weather metalled roads. Besides, two industrial estates/areas, one at Mahendragarh in 1963 and other at Narnaul in 1965 were set-up. Various facilities and incentives provided by the government led to industrial growth. There were only 74 small scale units in the district before 1966 but the number rose to 705 units by March, 1978. The table given below indicates tahsil-wise industrial units as on March 31, 1978.

Name of tahsil	Number of units	Production (Rs. in lakh approximately)	Employment
Rewari (including Bawal)	358	265.55	1,787
Narnaul	267	168.15	972
Mahendragarh	80	23.00	116
Total :	705	456.70	2,875

1. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 147.

In fact, the Rewari tahsil leads in the domain of industries as compared to other tahsils of the district. There is concentration of industries in Rewari town which is famous for utensil making and mostly the industrial units are housed/set-up in the residential houses due to non-availability of suitable accommodation. Next comes the Narnaul tahsil where agro and mineral based industries are concentrated. Mahendragarh tahsil is least developed in respect of industries.

Government Assistance to Industries

The industrial development in the district is looked after by the District Industries Officer, Narnaul¹, who is assisted by 9 Inspectors and 9 Block level Extension Officers. The industrial work in towns is looked after by the Inspectors whereas in the rural areas, it is looked after by the Block level Extension Officers. They render guidance and help to units in procurement of raw material and finance.

The Government of India has declared the district as industrially backward. The government assists entrepreneurs in a number of ways, viz. making land available on cheap and easy instalments, rendering financial assistance, supplying machinery on hire-purchase basis, providing raw material at controlled rates, providing marketing and technical assistance, industrial training and establishing common facility centres.

Financial Assistance

The state government advances loans to small scale industries for construction of factory buildings, purchase of machinery and equipments and working capital. The loans advanced in the district during 1975-76 to 1977-78 are as follows :—

Year	Loans Disbursed	
	No. of Units	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	80	2,04,000
1976-77	43	1,62,750
1977-78	44	2,50,500

Besides commercial banks, Haryana Financial Corporation also extends financial assistance to the industrial concerns.

1. This designation has now been changed as General Manager with effect from 27-2-1979.

Commercial Banks .—Commercial banks are playing very important role by way of advancing loans. The nationalised banks have initiated schemes for providing credit facilities to industrial units at concessional rate of interest and on easy terms and conditions. Under Differential Rate of Interest Scheme, loans for rural traditional artisans are advanced to meet their requirement for working capital. The State Bank of India has introduced a scheme of financial assistance to small scale units under which working capital is advanced against pledge of goods. Loans are also advanced against hypothecation of goods and bills under collection as well as against personal guarantees. Medium term loans for construction of factory buildings and purchase of machinery and plant are also advanced. A sum of Rs. 12,21,000 as a loan was advanced to 47 units in 1978 by commercial banks.

Haryana Financial Corporation .—It is engaged in rendering wide financial support primarily for the benefit of new industrial ventures or for the expansion or diversification of existing concerns. All bonafide industrial units having or envisaging a paid-up share capital and free reserves up to Rs. 1 crore can seek financial assistance up to Rs. 30 lakh and others up to Rs. 15 lakh. Loans for working capital are also granted to small scale industries in deserving cases where such capital is not available from other sources. The loans are repayable in a period of ten years with a grace period of two years.

In order to promote self employment among technician entrepreneurs holding a degree or diploma in engineering, loans are granted on liberalised terms at a reduced margin of 15 per cent on the value of fixed assets offered as security. It advances loans in such cases to the extent of Rs. 2 lakh. The corporation also grants loans to the ex-servicemen to the extent of Rs. 1 lakh at a reduced margin of 15 per cent.

The Corporation disbursed a sum of Rs. 67,28,500 as loan to 11 units in the district by March, 1978.

Industrial Areas and Industrial Estates

The government established two industrial estates in the district. The industrial estate at Mahendragarh was established in 1963 with 9 sheds and at Narnaul in 1965 with 14 sheds. These sheds were allotted at a monthly rent. An industrial development colony was also established at Rewari. Besides, Dharuhera in Rewari tahsil is being developed as an industrial complex and an area of 700 acres was acquired in 1976.

Development of Industries

The Government of India has declared the district as industrially backward and provided a number of facilities and concessions. A rural industries project, a Centrally sponsored scheme was sanctioned for the district in 1973-74. The scheme aiming at intensive development of village and small industries, accelerates the pace of industrialisation in backward areas. Thus industries in the rural areas are also being developed.

For the development of handloom industry, weavers in Narnaul and Rewari tahsils were provided financial assistance by the nationalised banks. To revive the decaying industry, the Haryana State Handloom and Handicraft Corporation has a proposal to start training-cum-production centres at Narnaul and Rewari.

The Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board, Chandigarh (now at Panchkula) also advances loans and grants for the promotion of village industries. The grants and loans disbursed by the Board in the district are given in Table VI of Appendix.

Training-cum-production centres were also opened at the following places for imparting training in the trades shown against each :—

Name of Place	Trade
(1) Asiaki Gorawas	Leather Foot-wear
(2) Pran Pura	Handloom
(3) Nizam Pur	Carpentry and Blacksmithy
(4) Kanti	duree-making

There were 4 common facility workshops at Ateli (Mandi), Kuksi, Jhagroli and Bawal for the benefit of agriculturists and rural artisans but these were taken over by Haryana Agro Industries Corporation and later closed down.

LARGE AND MEDIUM SCALE INDUSTRIES

In 1978, there were only following four large and medium scale units operating in the district .—

1. Aggarwal Metal Works Private Ltd., Rewari.—It was established in 1924 and took up the manufacture of non-ferrous metal sheets and circles. Since then the company has been expanding its

manufacturing range. It manufactures rolled industrial quality brass, copper and aluminium sheets and circles, highly polished zinc and copper photo engraving sheets and brass, copper, aluminium and stainless steel utensils for domestic use.

The unit is the only manufacturer of the mirror finished copper photo engraving sheets which were previously imported. The production and average employment provided by the unit are given below :—

Year	Production (Rs. in lakh)	Number of Employees
1970	64.87	342
1972	69.74	360
1974	109.55	337
1976	127.96	273
1977	186.67	278

2. Haryana Minerals Limited, Narnaul.—Haryana Minerals Limited was incorporated in 1972 as subsidiary of Haryana State Industrial Development Corporation Limited, Chandigarh. The main objects of the company are to scientifically work mines and quarries and to mine minerals such as slate, stone, marble, etc. It is basically engaged in quarrying slate stone of varied colours, building material and marble blocks. The company has slate mine projects at Kund (Kundal) and Bihali; Marble Projects at Narnaul and Antri-Biharipur. The company exports slate stone to european countries and Australia.

The details regarding the number of employees, production and exports during 1973-74 to 1977-78 are as follows :—

Year	Employment (Number)	Production (Rs. in lakh)	Export (Rs. in lakh)
1973-74	250	4.97	0.24
1974-75	507	15.91	1.34
1975-76	689	19.54	0.82
1976-77	641	27.09	10.91
1977-78	643	25.16	4.33

3. **Rewari Textiles Private Ltd., Rewari.**—The unit was set up at Rewari with a capital investment of Rs. 25 lakh in 1976. It manufactures shoddy yarn from woollen rags. In 1978, it provided employment to 40 persons and its annual production was worth Rs. 40 lakh.

4. **Wilking potteries, Patikara(Narnaul).**—The unit was established in 1975 with a total investment of Rs. 3.95 lakh. It manufactures ceramic potteries. In 1978, it provided employment to 22 persons and its annual production was worth Rs. 2.50 lakh.

SMALL SCALE INDUSTRIES

In 1977-78, there were 550 small scale units registered in the district. These units have been classified and details of their number, investment, production and employment are as follows :—

Sr. No.	Industry	No. of units	Total investment (Rs. in lakh)	Total production (Rs. in lakh)	Employment (Number)
1.	Metal based	60	30.00	190.00	1,080
2.	Mineral based	98	19.00	85.18	290
3.	Agro based	120	18.50	92.90	360
4.	Forest based	25	6.10	30.00	125
5.	Chemical	40	4.18	12.85	218
6.	Leather based	115	2.00	18.00	340
7.	Repair workshop	30	7.85	7.17	150
8.	Miscellaneous	62	20.12	20.60	312

The total investment of these units was Rs. 107.75 lakh and total production was worth Rs. 456.70 lakh and these units gave employment to 2,875 persons on an average.

VILLAGE INDUSTRIES

Though the large and medium scale and small scale industries contribute to the industrial progress of the district, yet the village industries meet the day to day needs of the villagers. These industries which are carried on by the artisans on family basis boost rural economy.

The village carpenter, weaver, blacksmith, shoe-maker and tanner are important functionaries of the village set-up. Rewari and Narnaul are known for shoe-making. *Khusas* of Rampura (Rewari tahsil) and Kutabpur (Narnaul tahsil) are very famous. These shoes were introduced in Rewari tahsil in 1949 when a few displaced artisans from Pakistan settled in the tahsil and introduced *Khusa* making. This particular type of shoe is facing difficulty due to the high rise of price of *zari* (golden thread) which is used in its manufacture. To promote these village industries Haryana Khadi and Village Industries Board, Chandigarh provides loans and subsidies.

Mineral based Industries

The district is rich in mineral resources but these are not exploited to the desired extent. The important minerals found in the district are : marble, slate, iron ore, quartz and calcite, mica, feldspar, dolomite, china clay, lime stone, cement *kankar* and building material. The revenue from major and minor minerals in 1977-78 was Rs. 41 thousand and Rs. 7.40 lakh respectively. There were 53 units engaged in the processing of the minerals with a capital investment of Rs. 18.22 lakh, employing 255 persons with annual turnover worth Rs. 28.23 lakh.

RURAL INDUSTRIALISATION PROGRAMME

The rural industrialisation programme was launched by the state government in 1977-78 to generate employment opportunities for unemployed educated rural youth and bring gradual decrease in urban-rural disparities through the development of small-scale and cottage industries in the rural areas. Under the scheme two or more educated unemployed rural entrepreneurs belonging to farming, business communities and Scheduled Castes and Backward classes may join to set up an industrial unit. The partners belonging to Scheduled Castes/Backward classes should be literate, while others should be matriculates or I.T.I. diploma holders. None of these persons should have any commercial interest in cities or possess land beyond 7 standard acres. The total capital investment of a unit should not exceed Rs. 1 lakh. There is no bar on individual educated unemployed entrepreneurs benefitting from the scheme but the ceiling on capital investment in the case of an individual is Rs. 30,000.

Funds for industrial ventures in rural areas are made available on easy terms. The finances required to meet the capital cost of the project together with 3 months' working capital to the extent of 80 per cent is advanced by financial institutions at the subsidised interest rate of 6 per cent. The government provides 10 per cent seed money

at 4 per cent interest and the remaining 10 per cent is contribution of the entrepreneur. A number of other benefits such as 15 per cent cash subsidy on capital investment, over-riding priority in releasing power connections, training stipends, additional allocation of raw material, price preference in government purchase and exemption from sales tax, purchase tax, stamp duty and registration fee are available to the units under this scheme.

In 1978, 75 units were started in rural areas of the district. A loan of Rs. 1,61,000 with a subsidy of Rs. 25,103 was sanctioned to 75 units in 1977-78.

SOURCE OF POWER

Prior to the introduction of hydel power from Bhakra Nangal Project in January, 1957, there was no power driven industry except a few oil and flour milling units run by diesel engines in the district. The developmental activities picked up after November, 1970 on electrification of all villages. The monthly consumption of electricity by industrial sector in the district was 2.96 lakh units in March, 1969. By March, 1978, it increased to 9.66 lakh units.

The number of grid sub-stations in the district increased from 2 in 1969 to 16 in March, 1978. These sub-stations located were as follows :—

Grid	Sub-stations
132 KV	Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari
33 KV	Bawal, Buroli, Palhawas, Dharuhera, Ateli, Nizampur, Nangal Chaudhry, Kanina, Pali, Mundia Khera, M.C. 3, M.C. 4 and M.C. 5 J.L.N.P.

INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATIVES

The development of industrial co-operative is essential for the promotion of industries, specially in cottage and small scale sectors. More and more stress is, therefore, laid on the development of industries through cooperatives. The industrial cooperatives ensure that decentralisation of industry is accompanied by proper improvement of techniques of production, procurement of raw material and marketing of finished goods.

The development of industrial cooperatives in the district is looked after by the Assistant Registrar Cooperative Societies, Mahendragarh, as an additional duty and is assisted by 2 Industrial Inspectors one each at Narnaul and Rewari and 9 Industrial Sub Inspectors. The following table indicates the number of industrial cooperative societies which existed in 1977-78 :-

Name of Industry	Number of Societies
Handloom weaving	13
Small Scale Industries	
(a) Engineering Goods	34
(b) Wood work	19
(c) Miscellaneous	88
Khadi & Village Industries	
(a) Non oils and Soap	12
(b) Pottery	1
(c) Ghani oil	11
(d) Cobblers	61
(e) Leather tanning	9
(f) Others	26
Handi Crafts Industries	4

CHAPTER VI

BANKING, TRADE AND COMMERCE

BANKING AND FINANCE

INDIGENOUS BANKING

The indigenous bankers in towns dealt in *hundis* and advanced loans for trade and industry.

In the past the traditional *sahukars*, popularly known as *boharas* controlled the village economy and the poor peasantry was at their mercy for all their social and economic needs. Previously the money-lenders generally advanced loan for consumption but after 1870, they changed their pattern. They began to impose such hard terms in their land mortgages that a mortgage nearly always ended in sale. Government put a check on this faulty land policy by passing the Punjab Alienation of Land Act, 1900. The *sahukars* were debarred from acquiring mortgaged lands.

Another class of agriculturist money-lenders came to the fore. While the former *sahukars*, deprived of land as a security, could only lend upto the limit of what could be repaid from the produce; the agriculturist money lenders to whom the above Act did not apply, could afford to lend up to the value of the land.

The record of indebtedness in Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Bawal tahsils which were part of princely states, is not available, however, the account of Rewari tahsil may throw some light on the extent of indebtedness in the district. The position of other parts of the district was in any case much worse. At the end of 1878, nearly 7.5 per cent of the cultivated area of the tahsil was mortgaged for one third of a year's revenue of the tahsil. The causes of debt were, general extravagance which led to debt even in ordinary years; marriage and funeral expenditure; drought and neglect to pay the interest on debts already contracted which rapidly multiplied themselves. The mortgages went on steadily increasing during the decades ending 1889-90 and 1899-1900. After 1902-03, the mortgages decreased due to passage of Land Alienation Act, 1900 and during 1904-05, 10.1 per cent of the cultivated area of the tahsil was mortgaged for Rs. 23 per acre or for 1 year's revenue of the tahsil. A total ascertained indebtedness of owners and occupancy

tenants in the tahsil was as follows :—

Consideration Money of land			Unsecured Debt	Total	Multiple of new Land Revenue
Sold	Mortgaged	Total			
(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	
5,60,479	5,73,401	11,33,880	12,33,869	23,67,749	8½

It cannot of course be claimed that the recorded consideration money of sales and mortgages accurately represented the value of land transferred, but these figures give rough idea of the indebtedness of land-owners and occupancy tenants to creditors other than government. The thrifty Ahirs of Rewari tahsil were, however, least burdened with debt, though their assessment was the heaviest and their land the worst in the district¹.

The rate of interest charged on ordinary unsecured loans was 12, 24 and 37.5 per cent per annum. Only borrowers of good status could secure loans at the lowest rate, the prevailing rate was 24 per cent. The rate of interest, when the loan was secured by pawned jewelry was from 6 to 20 per cent and when secured by landed property, was from 12 to 24 per cent. Special terms were fixed for short term loans. Money-lenders generally refused to accept interest for a shorter period than 6 months, and compound interest was charged after 6 months on debts².

The rate of land from 1904-05 to 1938-39 in the Rewari tahsil was to the extent of 6.7 per cent of the cultivated area and during 1938-39, 11.5 per cent of the cultivated area was mortgaged for Rs. 72 per acre as consideration money. These transfers were mostly between the agricultural proprietors themselves and only a small portion of land was mortgaged to non-agriculturists. The total debt of the tahsil was as follows³ :

	(Rs.)
1. Secured by mortgages of proprietary or occupancy rights	18,68,833
2. Agriculturist money lenders	16,59,431
3. Non-agriculturist money lenders	13,24,024
4. Cooperative Societies	7,23,305
5. <i>Taccavi</i> loans	4,01,874

1. *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 107.

2. *Ibid*, p. 107-08.

3. *Assessment Report of the Rewari tahsil of the Gurgaon District*, 1941, p. 13.

The British government took various steps to provide credit facilities on easy terms through the establishment of cooperative societies at Dhuruhera and Jatusana in 1907 and under the Land Improvement Loans Act, 1883 and the Agriculturists Loans Act, 1884. However, the borrowing from the government was unpopular in many cases and the cultivators preferred to take loans from the money-lenders. Though the rates of interest charged by the government were low, yet it insisted on punctual and regular payment in fixed instalments. Contrary to it the money-lender did not insist on punctual payment, and often accepted grain or cattle in lieu of the cash. The sikh rulers did not take any such measures to extend credit facilities to the people in their area and they (people) could not be relieved from the exploitation of the money-lenders till Independence. Before Independence, several enactments were passed to protect the agriculturists and weaker section from the exploitation of money-lenders. The Usurious Loans Act, 1919, the Punjab Regulation of Accounts Act, 1930, the Punjab Relief of Indebtedness Act, 1934, the Punjab Debtors' Protection Act, 1936 and the Punjab Registration of Money-Lenders' Act, 1938 were designed to achieve this. It is of course, doubtful if these measures stopped the more harmful adverse effects of the system. They certainly diverted adverse practices to clandestine forms.

After Independence, different joint-stock banks opened their branches in the district and these were confined mostly to the towns and catered to the needs of industrialists and traders. After nationalisation of major banks in 1969, the banking entered the field of integrated rural credit. The cooperative credit institutions have also endeavoured to be responsive to the needs of rural people but the procedural and other difficulties have still kept the indigenous money-lenders in the important position. To meet the unproductive and emergent unspecified expenditure, money-lenders, are always ready at hand. Few of them get themselves registered and on March 31, 1978, the number of licensed money-lenders was 40.

Joint Stock Banks

Till 1950 there was a slow growth of Joint stock banks but thereafter more and more branches were opened in semi-urban and rural areas of the district. In December, 1978, there were 32 branches of different banks in various parts of the district. A list of the commercial banks in the district is given in Table VII of Appendix.

These commercial banks carried on normal bank activities like deposits, remittances and advance against securities and other goods.

The State Bank of India as the local agent of the Reserve Bank of India handles all government transactions.

Co-operative Credit

Although the cooperative societies were opened at Dharuhera and Jatusana in 1907, yet the cooperative movement really began with the passage of Acts of 1954 and 1961. In 1978, there were 170 cooperative credit societies excluding industrial co-operative societies, of which 155 were agricultural credit and service societies and 15 were non-agricultural credit societies.

The agricultural co-operative credit societies include agricultural thrift and credit societies, agricultural multi-purpose societies and agricultural co-operative service societies. Their primary object is to assist the farmer to increase agricultural production and to develop the rural economy by providing adequate facilities for short and medium-term credit. These also finance the farmer for the purchase of improved seeds, setting up water sprinklers and installation of cemented pipes for irrigational purpose, etc.

The non-agricultural co-operative credit societies comprise urban banks, co-operative marketing societies, consumers' co-operative stores, etc. They meet the credit requirements of the non-cultivating section in urban and rural areas.

The financial position of these societies along with short and medium term loans advanced as on June 30, 1978 was as follows :

Particulars	(Rs. in lakh)	
	Agricultural Credit Societies	Non-Agricultural Societies
Working Capital	707.82	0.64
Deposits	8.80	0.01
Owned funds	136.63	0.16
Loans advanced during the year	529.76	Nil

The Central Co-operative Bank Ltd., Rewari.—It started functioning in October, 1922. In 1977-78, it had branches at Rewari, Bawal, Kund (Kundal), Dharuhera, Jatusana, Dahina and Palahwas. The bank issues short and medium term loans to individual members through co-operative societies and provides financial accommodation to the affiliated co-operative

societies for seasonal agricultural operations and the marketing of crops. The area of operation of the bank extends over Rewari sub-division.

The bank provided loans amounting Rs. 386.75 lakh during 1977-78 for different purposes to its affiliated societies. The working capital of the bank was Rs. 422.32 lakh at the end of June, 1978.

The Mahendragarh Central Cooperative Bank, Ltd., Mahendragarh.— It started functioning in February, 1954. In 1977-78, it had branches at Mahendragarh, Kanina, Narnaul, Ateli, Nangal Chaudhry and Nangal Sirohi. The bank also issues short term and medium term loans to individual members through cooperative societies for agricultural operations.

It also advances loans to industrial co-operative societies, labour cooperative societies, marketing cooperative societies, consumers' cooperative stores, etc.

During 1977-78, it advanced loans to various societies for agricultural and non-agricultural purposes amounting to Rs. 268.63 lakh. The working capital of the bank stood at Rs. 487.83 lakh by the end of June, 1978.

Primary Land Development Banks

The co-operative credit institutions could not advance long-term loans to the farmers. So the land mortgage banks, now known as land development banks, were set up for advancing long-term loans for the purpose of installation of tube-wells, sinking of wells, purchase of machinery (tractors, harrows, threshers, etc.), installation of sprinkler sets, water channels and improvement of land by way of levelling and payment of old debts against the mortgage of land.

On March, 31, 1978, there were three land development banks, one each at Rewari, Mahendragarh and Narnaul. These banks were established in 1970. The details regarding the working of these banks during 1974 to 1978 are given below :—

	(Year ending June)				
	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
1. Membership (Number)	12,752	14,201	15,550	19,856	20,896
2. Share Capital (Rs. in lakh)	27.97	32.24	35.34	39.63	42.15
3. Loans advanced (Rs. in lakh)	85.61	83.01	69.45	96.79	64.38
4. Loans outstanding (Rs. in lakh)	364.81	390.28	393.46	397.85	377.56

Insurance

The Life Insurance Corporation of India had a branch office at Bhiwani which covered the Mahendragarh district. The branch office, Bhiwani was under the jurisdiction of the Chandigarh Divisional Office. In 1978, the number of policy holders was 2,265 and a sum of Rs. 243.16 lakh was insured.

Small Savings

In addition to the other functions, the main activity of post offices in the district is to mobilize small savings in rural as well as urban areas. Banking facilities have been virtually extended to every body's door-step through post office savings banks. The following table gives the number of savings bank accounts and the total amount invested during 1972-73 to 1977-78 :—

Year	Savings bank accounts opened during the year	Amount de- posited during the year
	(No.)	Rs.
1972-73	2,716	1,11,76,000
1973-74	5,340	5,42,64,000
1974-75	2,776	3,31,32,000
1975-76	3,772	2,01,22,000
1976-77	3,271	1,23,91,000
1977-78	3,446	2,11,45,000

A Postal Cordination Committee has been constituted under the chairmanship of Superintendent of Post Offices, Gurgaon, to hold conference on postal matters. The committee examines cases of delay in post offices and solves difficulties in regard to various post office schemes of small savings. For the promotion of small savings, the National Savings Organisation has posted a District Savings Officer at Narnaul. Some of the small savings schemes are discussed below :—

School Savings Bank (Sanchayika) Scheme.—The scheme was introduced in 1972-73 in government higher secondary schools at Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry, and government high schools at Nangal Sirohi and Sarohibhali. During 1977-78, all the high and higher secondary

schools were covered under this scheme. The year-wise achievement of the scheme is given below :—

Year	Total Sanchayikas (Number)	Students Enrolled (Number)	Collection During the Year (Rs.)
1972-73	4	229	2,771
1973-74	63	12,871	53,120
1974-75	70	28,055	1,75,640
1975-76	76	32,680	3,73,710
1976-77	86	40,062	4,59,740
1977-78	107	46,833	4,78,000

Pay Roll Savings Groups.—In order to popularise the habit of thrift among the lower and middle income groups and to make the savings as far as possible easy and automatic, the District Savings Officer persuades employees and employers in the public and private-sectors to start Pay Roll Savings Groups in their establishments. Under the scheme, an employee gives an authorisation in favour of his head of the office or the employer for deduction of savings regularly from his salary/wages for being credited to his R.D.(Recurring Deposit)/C.T.D. (Cumulative Time Deposit) accounts at the post office.

The yearwise progress since 1972-73 to 1977-78 in the district in respect of pay roll savings groups is given below :—

Year	Total Groups During the Year Number	Membership During the Year Number	Collection During the Year (Rs.)
1972-73	85	3,541	9,64,555
1973-74	91	4,700	9,40,200
1974-75	100	4,629	12,73,760
1975-76	112	5,856	14,39,855
1976-77	124	13,600	28,01,215
1977-78	136	14,762	23,33,025

Mahila Pradhan Kshetriya Bachat Yojna.—The scheme formerly known as Area Savings Leaders Authorised Agency scheme was introduced on April, 1, 1972. Trained women workers were assigned specific area for explaining and canvassing for the small savings scheme and to secure deposits in Cumulative Time Deposit/Recurring Deposit accounts. The workers earn commission at the rate of 4 per cent on all deposits made through them. Though the district is backward and ladies hesitate to come forward for this job, 19 agents have been appointed and trained in the district up to 1977-78. The year-wise progress made in the district is given below :—

Year	Number of Agents During the year	Number of Accounts Opened During the Year	Collection During the year (Rs.)
1972-73	—	—	—
1973-74	—	—	—
1974-75	2	32	2,500
1975-76	5	57	5,000
1976-77	8	111	10,000
1977-78	4	140	19,250

Agency System.—Individuals are appointed as authorised agents under the Standardised Agency System for National Savings Scheme such as national savings certificates and time deposits accounts in post offices. They contact the investors, convince them for deposits, collect money from them and deposit the sum into the post offices. They help the investors at the time of withdrawal also. They are paid commission on the business booked through them. The yearwise progress from 1972-73 to 1977-78 is given below :—

Year	Scheme Holders (Number)	Authorised Agents for the Scheme (Number)	Collection (Rs.)
1972-73	41	8	72,600
1973-74	42	16	6,36,800
1974-75	42	27	9,15,120
1975-76	38	29	14,21,960
1976-77	45	41	26,65,930
1977-78	50	38	33,78,300

Extra Departmental Branch Post Masters.—There are 162 Extra Departmental Branch Post Masters in the district. Till the beginning of 1973-74, none of these branch post masters conducted small savings business. But afterwards they were allowed to conduct saving bank work. This is very good scheme to popularise the savings in the rural areas and to help the villagers in depositing money. They are paid commission at the rate of 2 per cent for this job. The year-wise progress made is given below :—

Year	Extra-Departmental Branch Post Masters	Branch Post Masters	Collection
	(Number)	(Number)	(Rs.)
1972-73	160	—	—
1973-74	160	—	—
1974-75	160	11	53,200
1975-76	160	22	2,72,860
1976-77	160	36	2,69,700
1977-78	162	71	6,74,300

Publicity.—Women Savings Day on 1st April and now on 15th April, *Sanchayika* Day on 15th September, World Thrift Day on 31st October are celebrated in the district every year. The declamation contests, debates, etc., among students are held on small savings schemes in the schools/colleges which prove a good publicity. There are five national social service units in the district which give publicity in their respective areas.

Awards.—The State Government gives some awards to the districts on the basis of their performance in the achievements of the targets allotted. The Mahendragarh district has been able to get maximum awards so far. The amount of awards received by this district from 1965-66 to 1972-73 is given below :—

Year	Amount of award
	(Rs.)
1965-66	3,00,000
1966-67	2,00,000
1967-68	2,00,000
1968-69	1,00,000
1969-70	4,00,000
1970-71	1,00,000
1971-72	Nil
1972-73	3,50,000

From 1973, the scheme of awards was discontinued.

TRADE AND COMMERCE

In the beginning of the 20th century, the only marts of some importance in the district were Narnaul and Rewari. White-wash and lime were exported from Narnaul and barley, oil seeds, kharif millets and pulses from Rewari. The barley of Rewari tahsil was noted for its excellence, was exported to hill breweries. The oil seeds was exported to Bombay and millets and pulses to Gujarat. The chief imports were wheat, rice, raw sugar, salt, raw cotton and yarn¹.

At present the district exports mineral products like lime stone, iron ore, slates, slate stone and raw wool, embroidered frames, reed chairs and table, *bajra*, gram, ghee and onions and imports wheat, sugar, cotton seed and cloth.

Regulated Markets.—Previously the farmer was deceived at the time of sale of his produce. The system of sale and purchase was most disorganised. To regulate the sale and purchase, the regulated markets at Rewari and Narnaul were setup in 1941 and 1948 respectively. Prior to the merger of Pepsu, the markets of Mahendragarh and Narnaul were controlled by the State Marketing Board, Patiala. This practice was made regular by the Punjab Agricultural Produce Market Act, 1961. The markets play an important role in helping the sale of commodities at reasonable prices. The cultivator is now much safeguarded against underhand and illegal practices which were previously adopted by traders and intermediaries.

There are five regulated markets and 9 sub-market yards in the district. Each of these has a market committee which represent growers, commission agents, traders, local bodies and the state Government.

The main commodities for which transactions usually take place in the different markets are given below :—

Regulated markets	Main arrivals
1. Rewari	<i>Sarson, moth, potatoes, groundnut, onions, wheat, gram, barley, bajra, gur, shakkar, jowar</i>
2. Kanina	<i>Gram, bajra, gur, jowar, sarson</i>
3. Ateli	<i>Gram, barley, bajra, gur, sarson, cotton seed</i>
4. Mahendragarh	<i>Wheat, gram, barley, bajra, gur, shakkar, sarson, cotton seed</i>
5. Narnaul	<i>Wheat, gram, barley, bajra, gur, shakkar, jowar, sarson, groundnut, moong, potatoes, onions</i>

1. *Phulkian States Gazetteer (Patiala, Jind and Nabha)*, 1904, p. 133 and *Gurgaon District Gazetteer*, 1910, p. 151.

Cattle Fairs

Before the enactment of Haryana Cattle Fairs Act, 1970, the cattle fairs were controlled, managed and regulated by the concerned Panchayat Samiti in the district. The income accrued from these fairs was credited into Samiti fund. As a result of introduction of the Act (Since 1970), the right of holding the cattle fairs has vested in the government. The following table contains a list of cattle fairs organised in the district :

Tahsil 1	Place 2	Time 3	Duration 4
Narnaul	1. Mahesar	1. <i>Phagan</i> (February-March)	Six days
		2. <i>Jeth</i> (May-June)	
		3. <i>Asoj</i> (September-October)	
	2. Dharso	1. <i>Magh Sudi</i> 5 (January-February)	One week
		2. <i>Jeth Badi</i> 1 (May-June)	
		3. <i>Katak Sudi</i> 1 (October-November)	
	3. Ateli	1. <i>Phagan Sudi</i> 3 (February-March)	One week
		2. <i>Jeth Badi</i> 8 (May-June)	
		3. <i>Sawan Sudi</i> 3 (July-August)	
Mahendragarh	4. Khurhawata	1. <i>Baisakh</i> (April-May)	Seven days
		2. <i>Asarh</i> (June-July)	
	5. Kanina	1. <i>Phagan Sudi</i> 4 (February-March)	Six days
		2. <i>Asarh Badi</i> 1 (June-July)	

1	3	4	5
Rewari (including Bawal)	6. Dahina	1. <i>Baisakh</i> (April-May)	
		2. <i>Sawan</i> (July-August)	
		3. <i>Katak</i> (October-November)	One week
	7. Jatusana	1. <i>Katak</i> (October-November)	One week
	8. Gurawada	1. <i>Asarh</i> (July-August)	
		2. <i>Poh</i> (December-January)	One week
	9. Dharuhera	1. <i>Magh</i> (January-February)	
		2. <i>Asarh</i> (June-July)	Eight days
	10. Rewari	1. <i>Phagan</i> (February-March)	
		2. <i>Sawan</i> (July-August)	Eight days

Besides, bullocks and asses are brought for sale in the Bhairon fair and the religious fair, held at Basduda (Rewari tahsil) during March-April.

The total income from the cattle fairs in 1978 was Rs. 7,89,896.

Cooperation in Trade

As a result of co-operative movement, the cooperative marketing societies were formed at Mahendragarh, Narnaul, Ateli, Rewari and Kanina.

The membership of the cooperative marketing societies comprises primary societies and individuals. These help the farmer in several ways. He is supplied with agricultural implements, good quality seeds and other items. These societies further arrange for the marketing and processing of agricultural produce and maintain godowns for storage so that the farmer may wait for appropriate time to sell his produce.

They also procure agricultural produce for the government. In 1978, foodgrains worth Rs. 28.03 lakh was procured by these societies.

Storage and Warehousing

Before 1967, the godowns for storage purposes were maintained by private dealers. These stores were not of desired specification. To remove this difficulty, the Haryana Warehousing Corporation which was established on November 1, 1967, was authorised to own godowns and run warehouses.

On March 31, 1978, the corporation was running warehouses at Narnaul and Rewari in Mahendragarh district.

In the co-operative sector, the National Co-operative Development Corporation, as well as state Government provide financial help for construction of godowns/store houses to the rural primary credit and service societies and co-operative marketing societies. On June 30, 1978, primary co-operative credit and service societies had 43 godowns, with a total storage capacity of 8,600 tonnes. During the same period the marketing co-operative societies had godowns at Mahendragarh, Kanina, Narnaul, Ateli and Rewari, with a total storage capacity of 4,350 tonnes.

Consumers Co-operative Stores

With a view to checking the trend of rising prices and to ensure better distribution of consumer goods, the Narnaul Central Cooperative Consumers Store and Rewari Central Cooperative Consumers Store were registered in 1974-75. Since then these stores have been catering to the needs of consumers both urban and rural. The Narnaul Central Co-operative Consumers Store has nine branches which include a medicine shop supplying genuine medicine at cheaper rates to patients in the premises of Civil Hospital, Narnaul. The Rewari Central Co-operative Consumers Store has five branches at Rewari.

The consumers get all their daily requirements of grocery, cloth, general merchandise, household goods, *ghee* and milk products, watches, handloom goods and rationed articles from these stores, comparatively at reasonable prices. The stores also supply various goods of common use through village service societies to the rural area of the district.

Apart from retail business, the stores act as whole-salers in respect of commodities like sugar, foodgrains and controlled cloth. They also provide marketing facilities for the goods manufactured by other

cooperatives. An assessment of the stores' value to people may be had from the following statement :—

(Rs. in lakh)

	Narnaul Consumers Store year ending June				Rewari Consumers Store Year ending June			
	1975	1976	1977	1978	1975	1976	1977	1978
1. Sales (Rs.)	7.24	37.63	38.93	23.25	0.54	24.96	20.87	31.14
2. Profit (Rs.)	0.13	0.39	0.06	—	—	0.20	0.04	0.16
3. Share Capital (Rs.)	1.09	1.57	2.07	3.57	—	1.43	2.18	2.20
4. Own funds (Rs.)	1.10	1.63	2.67	4.26	0.71	1.45	2.40	2.46
5 Working capital (Rs.)	1.63	3.17	4.44	5.58	0.52	3.67	2.79	3.42
6. Membership (Number)	535	575	591	620	339	536	632	665
7. Branches (Number)	1	6	9	9	1	3	4	5
8. Employees (Number)	5	20	21	20	3	12	11	14

State Trading

State trading was started in 1959 to check the major fluctuations in the prices of foodgrains, particularly wheat. Of course, this district does not produce surplus wheat in comparison to other districts of the state. The initial procurement of wheat was undertaken by the state. This helped to maintain a price level which was fair to both consumers and producers.

During the period of scarcity, fair price shops are opened to curb the malpractices in the distribution of essential commodities to the consumers. The total number of fair price shops was 380 in 1978. The card-holders obtain their supplies of wheat, wheat *atta*, sugar, rice, kerosene and *ghee* through fair price shops functioning in the area.

WEIGHTS AND MEASURES

There was no uniform standard of weights and measures prior to 1941, so much so, that even in the same district it sometimes varied from village to village and a *ser* ranged from 40 to 102 *tolas* in weight at different places according to usage. With increased commercial and industrial activity in the country, this chaotic situation created a sense of uncertainty accentuated often by fraudulent practices. One of these practices was to use weighing apparatus by hand thereby cheating the producer of his produce by unscrupulous traders. In order to remedy these evils the Punjab Weights and Measures Act, 1941, which itself was a corollary to the Central Standards of Weights Act of 1939, was enacted. This act was applicable only in Rewari area during that period.

The new metric system of weights and measures was introduced in 1958. However, to avoid hardship to the public, a transitory period of two years was allowed permitting use of weights and measures in vogue immediately before the enforcement of the Act. Thereafter the public became well acquainted with the new weights and measures. The old weights and measures are still known but are no longer in vogue.

The Inspector, Weights and Measures with his headquarters at Rewari verifies weights and scales, used in trade in the district. He enforces the use of standard and authorised weights and scales.

CURRENCY AND COINAGE

The currency of Princely State of Patiala was in circulation in the Mahendragarh *Nizamat* and the British currency was in vogue in Rewari tract.

The right of coinage was conferred on Patiala ruler in 1767 by Ahmed Shah Durrani. No copper coin was ever minted and only on one occasion, in the reign of Maharaja Narinder Singh, 8-anna, and 4-anna pieces were struck; but rupees and gold coins or *ashrafis* were coined at intervals up to 1895, when the mint was closed for ordinary coinage. The coins bore the legend that they were struck under the authority of Ahmed Shah and the coinage of each chief bore a distinguishing device, generally a kind of weapon. The Patiala rupee was known as *raja shahi* rupee. It was rather lighter than the British rupee but contained the same amount of silver. The rupees known as *Nanak Shahi* were used in connection with religious ceremonies at Dussehra and Diwali festivals¹. Later, the British coins in circulation in the Rewari area were adopted by these States.

Up to 1957, the coinage was as under :—

- (i) Silver rupee, $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee, $\frac{1}{4}$ rupee and $\frac{1}{8}$ rupee;
- (ii) Quaternary alloy rupee, $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee and $\frac{1}{4}$ rupee;
- (iii) Nickel rupee, $\frac{1}{2}$ rupee and $\frac{1}{4}$ rupee;
- (iv) Cupronickel 8 *anna*, 4 *anna*, 2 *anna*, 1 *anna*, and $\frac{1}{2}$ *anna*;
- (v) Nickel Brass 2 *anna*, 1 *anna*, and $\frac{1}{2}$ *anna*;
- (vi) Copper double pice, single pice, half pice and pie; and
- (vii) Bronze single pice, half pice and pie.

1. *Imperial Gazetteer of India, Provincial Series. Punjab Vol.-II p. 295-96.*

An anna was equal to 4 pice or 12 pies and a pice was equal to 3 pies.

From April 1, 1957, the decimal system of coinage was introduced in the country. This system has made the calculation easy and simple. Now a rupee consists of 100 paise with different coins of the denomination of 1, 2, 3, 5, 10, 20, 25, 50 paise and one rupee. Currency notes are issued in the denomination of rupees 1, 2, 5, 10, 20, 50 and 100.

The following table shows the conversion of the old Indian coins and notes into the new decimal system. The table is given in the following pages.

CHAPTER VII

COMMUNICATIONS

INTRODUCTION

A brief account of main trade routes during Medieval times (1526 to 1707) passing through the district is as follows :—

- (i) Agra to Delhi (Via Kama Pahadi and Rewari)
- (ii) Delhi to Ajmer (Via Rewari)

Agra-Delhi route.—Neither the Persian sources nor foreign travellers make mention about this route. This was so because it was not in much use due to its passing through a dense jungle and hilly areas of Mewat popularly known as robbers' den. A trader could not dare to take such a route. It was only used for military movements. For instance, after Humayun's defeat in Bilgram, he came to Agra and reached Kama Pahadi and from there he came to Delhi via Rewari. Sher Shah's army chased Humayun following the same route. After almost two hundred years, the same route was adopted by Baji Rao first marching with Jat Raja Badan Singh.

Delhi to Ajmer route.—This route was used by traders and travellers who used to go to Ahmedabad and Thatta. The main stages for reaching Ajmer were : Delhi to Serai Slawardi; Pataudi, Rewari, Kotputli, Barduryana, Chaksar, Sambhar village, Maraunda, Sarron and then Ajmer. From Rewari there were some other routes also which were used by traders. Of these the important one was via Bawal, Narnaul to Ajmer. This route was also adopted by religious devotees including the emperors¹ who used to go to Ajmer for paying respects to Sheikh Muin-un-din-Chisti.

Geographically Narnaul area of the district is very much adjacent with the areas of some districts of Rajasthan. In the long past there were mountain passes to connect this area with some places of Rajasthan. The important mountain passes, as mentioned by Powlett in the *Gazetteer of Ulwar*, 1878, are described below² :—

Mountain Passes

Ways

- | Mountain Passes | Ways |
|-----------------------|--|
| 1. Banhar (Rajasthan) | On the way (cart-road) from Behror to Narnaul |
| 2. Maharajwas (Do) | On the way (cart-road) from Behror to Narnaul |
| 3. Nibhor (Do) | On the way (cart-road) between Gandala and Narnaul |

1. Akbar went to Ajmer via Narnaul, see Abul Fazl, *Akbarnama*, Vol. III, p. 110.

2. p. 79.

In the 19th century, the district did not have any metalled road. A few that existed were merely camel paths. John, however, in his assessment report of Rewari tahsil in 1838 described that the roads were heavy, sandy and remarkably ill-adapted for hackeries. The remarks equally applied to other parts of the district. The absence of roads was compensated by the railways in Rewari tahsil but Narnaul and Mahendragarh areas were not provided with railways or roads.

In the beginning of the 20th century, there were only two metalled roads and that too in Rewari town only. The Palwal-Narnaul Road via Nuh, Taoru, Dharuhera, Rewari and Nimant though an important road, was unmetalled.

The unmetalled roads of significance were as follows :—

1. Narnaul to Kanaud, 13 Miles (21 Kilometres)
2. Kanaud to Bassai, 11 Miles (18 Kilometres)
3. Bawal to Kanina, 32 Miles (51 Kilometres)
4. Bawal to Bir Jhabua, 3 Miles (5 Kilometres)
5. Delhi to Rewari and Jaipur via Shahjahanpur (Rajasthan), 53 Miles (85 Kilometres)
6. Rewari to Jhajjar, 15 Miles (24 Kilometres)
7. Rewari to Kot Qasim (Rajasthan) 10 Miles (16 Kilometres)
8. Sohna to Rewari
9. Alwar to Hisar via Mator, Behror and Narnaul.

The following extract from the Assessment Report of Rewari Tahsil, 1941, provides an interesting reading about the un-metalled roads¹ :

“There were no metalled roads at settlement. Rewari is now connected with the headquarters of the district by a metalled road. Another metalled road from Rewari to Jhajjar is under construction. There are no roads in the southern and western portion of the tahsil except kacha tracks running in deep sand. On two of these, Rewari-Dahina and Rewari-Shahjahanpur roads, lorries occasionally ply for hire. By systematic encroachments and constant digging to provide mud fences for fields the village roads have

generally been reduced into nullahs. In dry seasons the bullock carts pass over them with great difficulty while in wet months they are impassable. Camels and bullock-carts are the chief modes of transport used."

After Independence, greater emphasis was laid on the development of communication and large number of roads were made. The road development was marked after 1970, when the government embarked upon a crash programme to link every village with metalled road. In 1977-78, about 87 per cent of the villages of the district were connected with metalled roads and the district had a net work of 1,296 kilometres of metalled roads.

ROADS AND ROAD TRANSPORT

Roads

In 1947, the then Mahendragarh district had only about 27 Km of road though Rewari tahsil which later became part of the district had also a few metalled roads. The post-Independence period has, however, witnessed considerable expansion in road construction. The phased progress of road development achieved in the then district is detailed in the table below :—

Period	Total Metalled Length (Kilometres)
First Five-Year Plan (1951-56)	129.00
Second Five-Year Plan (1956-61)	382.09
Third Five-Year Plan (1961-66)	604.09
1-4-66 to 31-3-67	652.91
1-4-67 to 31-3-68	675.91
1-4-68 to 31-3-69	681.34
Fourth Five-Year Plan (1969-74) i.e. 31-3-74	1,119.34
1-4-74 to 31-3-1975	1,140.83
1-4-75 to 31-3-1976	1,195.86
1-4-76 to 31-3-1977	1,214.86
1-4-77 to 31-3-1978	1,296.115

The break-up of 1,296.115 kilometres of metalled roads as on

March 31, 1978 in the district was as under :—

Classification	Length (Kilometres)
National Highways	39.255
State Highways	270.40
Other Roads	986.46
Total :	1,296.115

A brief description of important roads as on March 31, 1978 is given below :

National Highway

Delhi-Jaipur Road (N.H. 8).—There is no other National Highway in this district except a stretch of 39.255 kilometres of the Delhi-Jaipur Road (N.H. 8) which enters the district at 67.925 km. near village Kapriwas and leaves at 107.180 km. near village Jaisinghpur Khera. The road has a double-lane width of 22 feet (6.7 metres). It connects Delhi with Jaipur and also caters for all traffic bound for Gujarat and Maharashtra. The previous national highway which passed through Gurgaon, Sohna, Nuh and Firozpur Jhirka on the way to Alwar and Jaipur is no longer treated as such. The new road has been diverted from Gurgaon town through a by-pass on to Manesar (Gurgaon district) and crossing Sahibi stream beyond Dharuhera (Rewari tahsil) on to Shahjahanpur in Rajasthan after traversing a length of 39.255 kilometres in Mahendragarh district. The whole length of the road is metalled and bitumen surfaced. It passes through the south-eastern portion of Rewari tahsil and connects Dharuhera.

State Highways

Gurgaon-Rewari-Narnaul-Singhana Road (S.H. 26).—This road covers a distance of 82.34 kilometres in the district. It enters the district in the east near village Khalilpur (Rewari tahsil) and leaves the district in the west near village Goad (Narnaul tahsil). It connects Rewari and Kund (Kundal) with Narnaul on one side and with Singhana (Rajasthan) on the other. It is metalled and bitumen surfaced.

Nizampur—Narnaul—Mahendragarh—Dadri—Bhiwani—Hansi—Barwala—Tohana—Munak Road (S.H. 17).—The length of this road in the district is 55.00 kilometres. It starts in the district from village

Nizampur (Narnaul tahsil) and leaves it at village Akodah. It runs through the district from south to north and crosses the Gurgaon-Rewari-Narnaul-Singhana road at Narnaul and passes through Mahendragarh town. It is metalled and bitumen surfaced.

Bahadurgarh—Jhajjar—Kosli—Mahendragarh Road (S.H. 22).—The length of this road in the district is 9.06 kilometres. It enters the district from east at village Lukhi (Mahendragarh tahsil) and joins Rewari—Dahina—Kanina—Mahendragarh—Satnali—Loharu road at village Kanina (Mahendragarh tahsil). The whole road is metalled and bitumen surfaced.

Rewari—Dahina—Kanina—Mahendragarh—Satnali—Loharu Road (S.H. 24).—The length of this road in the district is 62.86 kilometres. It starts from Rewari town and leaves the district at Madhogarh (Bhiwani) village after crossing Nizampur—Narnaul—Mahendragarh—Dadri road at Mahendragarh. It is metalled and bitumen surfaced.

Shahjahanpur—Rewari—Jhajjar—Rohtak--Jind--Narwana--Khanouri Road (S.H. 15).—The length of this road in the district is 44.46 kilometres. It enters the district at village Khandewra (Rewari tahsil) and leaves at village Gurawada (Rewari tahsil) after passing through Rewari and proceeds to Jhajjar. It is metalled and bitumen surfaced.

Palwal—Sohna—Rewari Road (S.H. 26).—The road starting from Palwal enters Rewari tahsil at 54 km. and after running for 4.86 km. on Delhi-Jaipur road proceeds to Rewari. A total length of 21.54 km. falls in Mahendragarh district, out of which 4.86 km. forms part of Delhi-Jaipur road. The entire road is metalled and bitumen surfaced.

Other Roads

The other roads include major district roads and village link roads. The major district roads provide important links with different towns and villages of the district. These roads are Bundkala - Dadri-Chirya - Bhagot - Kanina - Ateli road (44.75 km.), Faizabad - Seehma-Kanina road (28.84 km.), Nizampur - Nangal Durgo - Nangal Chaudhry road (16 km.) and Narnaul - Nangal Chaudhry - Bhudhawal road (31.05 km.). On March 31, 1978, the length of these roads was :

Metalled	986.46 Kilometres
Unmetalled	140.44 Kilometres

Canal Inspection Roads

There are well maintained unmetalled inspection roads along the banks of irrigation channels. The length of the roads is the same as

that of the channels. Such roads can serve only light vehicular traffic. They are maintained by the Irrigation Department and are not ordinarily meant to be used by the general public. The department constructed about 188 kilometres of inspection roads in the Mahendragarh district up to March 31, 1978, along the irrigation channels.

Road Transport

Vehicles and Conveyances.—In old days, the means of communication were poor and the village paths were narrow and at some places ran between hedges and sand-dunes. People travelled on rare occasions, like visits to holy places, marriages and on other social occasions. Mostly the journey was performed in groups and often on foot, on camels or in bullock carts. Mostly camels and horses were used for travelling purposes because the areas were sandy. Better vehicular traffic was confined to towns only.

With the development and expansion of roads, villages and towns were linked with metalled roads. Better vehicles came into use. Rubber-tired tongas, driven by horses, became one of the swifter means of conveyance, within the towns. Later appeared cycles, buses, cars and trucks. Now *thelas*, cycle-rickshaws, motor cycles and scooters, jeeps and station wagons, cars, buses, trucks, tractors and tempos (three wheeled-motor transport) are the means of conveyance. The tempo which appeared only a few years ago has now become a popular means of public transport especially in rural areas. This is also used for carrying goods to shorter distances. The following table shows the number of vehicles on road in the district during the period from 1972-73 to 1977-78 :—

Type of Vehicles	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
1. Motor Cycles & Scooters	182	310	451	501	511	571
2. Auto-rickshaws	1	—	—	2	15	13
3. Jeeps	128	141	180	160	121	139
4. Private Motor Cars	50	79	121	119	98	110
5. Taxies/Motor Cars	—	2	6	1	2	2
6. Other Public service vehicles	17	2	157	152	171	226
7. Goods vehicles	144	171	286	299	264	351
8. Tractors	425	135	554	638	381	462
9. Miscellaneous	46	72	122	131	86	7
Total :	993	912	1,977	2,003	1,649	1,881

Thus, out of a total of 1,881 vehicles on road on March 31, 1978, the largest number, i.e. 571 was of motor cycle and scooters, followed by tractors, numbering 462. The goods vehicles and other public service vehicles came next, their number being 351 and 226 respectively. The jeeps and private motor cars stood at the fifth and the sixth category in the table. The increasing number of the tractors shows a mechanised trend in the system of agriculture in the district.

Passenger Transport

Before Independence there was no state road transport undertaking and a few lorries plied for hire on a few unmetalled roads. Later a few private companies came to operate their services without providing any facilities or amenities for the passengers. The buses of following private transport companies used to operate in the district prior to nationalization in 1972 :—

1. Rohtak Bhiwani Transport Co., Rohtak
2. Rohtak General Transport Co., (P) Ltd., Rohtak
3. Jhajjar Motor Roadways (P) Ltd., Jhajjar
4. Gurgaon District Ex-servicemen Coop. Transport Society Ltd., Gurgaon
5. Modern Coop. Transport Society Ltd., Gurgaon
6. Rohtak District Coop. Transport Society Ltd., Rohtak
7. M/s. Onkar Parshad, Udmi Ram, Sardar Singh, Mahendragarh
8. Haryana Roadways, Regd., Charkhi Dadri
9. The Illaqa Badhra Coop. Transport Society Ltd., Badhra
10. The Dadri Haryana Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Charkhi Dadri
11. M/s. Abhey Ram S/o Ram Chand, Charkhi Dadri
12. Mudhal Khurd Azad Coop. Transport Society, Bhiwani
13. M/s. Chinaria Transport Co. (P) Ltd., Charkhi Dadri
14. Mahendragarh Workers' Coop. Transport Society Ltd., Mahendragarh
15. Dadri Kissan & Mazdoor Coop., Transport Society Ltd., Charkhi Dadri
16. The Haryana Ex-servicemen Coop. Transport Society Ltd., Charkhi Dadri

17. Navyug Motor Service (P) Ltd., Charkhi Dadri
18. M/s. Mata Din S/o Ganga Sahai, Narnaul
19. M/s. Nathu Ram S/o Sh. Mangal Ram, Mahendragarh
20. M/s. Udmi Ram—Sardar Singh, Mahendragarh
21. Mudhal Khurd Azad Coop. Society Ltd., Mahendragarh
22. M/s. Umrao Singh S/o Kewal Ram, Mahendragarh
23. M/s. Mangal Ram—Mam Raj, Narnaul

The passenger transport by road was nationalised in stages between April, 1970 and November, 1972. The Haryana Roadways, Gurgaon, plied its buses on certain routes in the Mahendragarh district. The Gurgaon depot of the Haryana Roadways was established on September 1, 1959. Rewari being a part of the Gurgaon district, was under Gurgaon depot. A general bus stand with many amenities was constructed at Rewari in 1970. On December 1, 1972, a new depot was opened at Rewari while a sub-depot at Narnaul was established on May 2, 1975. The General Manager, Haryana Roadways, Rewari is the in-charge of these depots.

The Haryana Roadways, Rewari, had a fleet of 88 buses at the time of creation of a full fledged depot. In 1976, the number increased to 151, and the daily coverage by the buses was 36,000 kilometres. Up to March 31, 1978, only 8 new buses were added making a total of 159, whereas the daily coverage by the buses increased to 36,332 kilometres. The daily authorised trips of buses from Rewari depot were 508.

The sub depot at Narnaul is supervised by a Traffic Manager under the control of the General Manager, Haryana Roadways, Rewari. It had only 10 buses to start with and their number increased to 26 in 1978. The sub depot is located in the Municipal bus stand and has a small workshop. The daily authorised trips from the sub-depot were 163. On March, 31, 1978, the number of trips increased to 254.

Buses of other depots of Haryana Roadways, Delhi Transport Corporation and Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation also pass through the district.

The following transport undertakings are operating on the routes

mentioned against each :—

Name of the Transport Undertaking	Route
1	2
3	
1. Haryana Roadways, Rewari	Rewari-Chandigarh via Rohtak Rewari-Kalka via Delhi Rewari-Jagadhri via Delhi Rewari-Delhi via Manesar Rewari-Delhi via Sohna Rewari-Narnaul via Khori Rewari-Jhajjar-Rohtak Rewari-Jhajjar Rewari-Ajmer Rewari-Kund-Ateli-Kotputli Rewari-Faridabad Rewari-Kosli-Mundhara Rewari-Bahujholari Rewari-Mandola via Kund/Dahina Rewari-Bolni/Jorthal Rewari-Gurgaon via Manesar Rewari-Jagadhri via Rohtak Rewari-Hisar Rewari-Charkhi Dadri-Bhiwani Rewari-Pataudi Rewari-Mahendragarh Rewari-Khandewra-Rajgarh/Tankri Rewari-Bawal-Pranpura Rewari-Kund-Behror Rewari-Bawal-Behror Rewari-Palwal-Hodal Rewari-Nuh-Tauru/Tauru-Pataudi Rewari-Mathura Rewari-Tijara-Firozpur Jhirka Rewari-Dahina via Jatusana/Budhpur Rewari-Babroli-Darauli-Narnaul-Khetri Rewari-Chandigarh via Manesar Rewari-Dabwali Rewari-Kotputli Rewari-Kurukshetra Rewari-Jhunjhunu Rewari-Bharatpur

1	2	3
		Rewari-Bhiwani-Jind
		Rewari-Chandigarh via Pataudi
		Rewari-Kot Qasim
		Rewari-Gurgaon via Pataudi
		Rewari-Hardwar
		Rewari-Hassanpur
		Rewari-Jhajjar-Loharu
		Rewari-Nuh-Hodal
		Mahendragarh-Loharu-Pilani
		Mahendragarh-Tosham
		Mahendragarh-Nahar-Kosli
		Delhi-Jhajjar-Mahendragarh
		Gurgaon-Bahadurgarh
		Jhajjar-Bhiwani
		Narnaul-Chandigarh via Delhi
2.	Haryana Roadways, (Sub-Depot, Narnaul)	Narnaul-Akoli
		Narnaul-Delhi via Sohna/Manesar
		Narnaul-Nizampur
		Narnaul-Godbalawa
		Narnaul-Nangal Chaudhry
		Narnaul-Mahendragarh
		Narnaul-Kotputli
		Narnaul-Kanina via Seehma/Ateli/Mahendragarh
		Narnaul-Rohtak
		Narnaul-Babaji
		Narnaul-Ambala City
		Narnaul-Dabwali
		Narnaul-Mohanpur
		Narnaul-Hisar
		Narnaul-Nizampur-Nangal Chaudhry
		Narnaul-Ateli-Kanina-Charkhi Dadri
		Narnaul-Sonipat
		Narnaul-Hardwar
		Narnaul-Jaipur
		Mahendragarh-Duloth
3.	Haryana Roadways, Gurgaon	Gurgaon-Rewari-Narnaul
		Delhi-Narnaul-Khetri
4.	Haryana Roadways, Rohtak	Rohtak-Jhajjar-Rewari-Jaipur
		Rohtak-Mahendragarh-Narnaul

1	2	3
5.	Haryana Roadways, Bhiwani	Narnaul-Charkhi Dadri-Rohtak Mahendragarh-Satnali
6.	Haryana Roadways, Jind	Jind via Bhiwani-Narnaul Narwana-Jind-Rewari
7.	Haryana Roadways, Kaithal	Kaithal-Narnaul Kaithal-Rewari
8.	Haryana Roadways, Karnal	Karnal-Panipat-Rewari
9.	Haryana Roadways, Hisar	Hisar-Charkhi Dadri-Rewari Narnaul-Mahendragarh-Hisar
10.	Haryana Roadways, Ambala	Ambala-Rewari
11.	Haryana Roadways, Chandigarh	Chandigarh-Narnaul
12.	Delhi Transport Corporation, Delhi	Delhi-Narnaul-Khetri Delhi-Rewari
13.	Rajasthan State Road Transport Corporation	Jaipur-Rewari-Rohtak-Chandigarh Jaipur-Narnaul Ajmer-Kotputli-Narnaul-Bhiwani Jhunjhunu-Narnaul-Delhi Khetri-Delhi Bharatpur-Rewari Jhunjhunu-Rewari

Station wagons, and tempos, which have been registered as taxis, also provide transport to villages from convenient points. There is no luxury or air-conditioned coach with the Rewari depot/Narnaul Sub-depot. Mahendragarh, Rewari and Narnaul have the facility of local bus service, from bus stands to nearest villages. Bus queue and pick-up shelters have been made at convenient and busy bus stops.

Goods Transport

In old days, in the absence of pucca roads and means of transportation, people of the district used camels and bullock carts to carry their produce in the market. Since most of the villages have now been connected with road and transportation of goods has become easy through trucks and other means of conveyance. Though railway facilities are also available yet the goods transport is mainly handled by private goods transport operators through trucks. In 1977-78, there were 351 trucks registered in the district.

Goods traffic by road is mostly unorganised. There is no provision for the parking of trucks, godowns and warehousing in the district. The system of booking agencies has developed which cater to the needs of both the operators and the traders. The private operators have organised themselves by forming unions in the district to reduce competition and to derive maximum profit. Goods transport companies and operators also settle claims more promptly than the railways. The traders are thus provided with a regular satisfactory service.

The private truck owners are members of the registered truck unions. The goods carriers required by the traders and goods companies are supplied by the unions at fixed rates. The truck unions function at the following places :—

1. Truck Owners Association, Rewari
2. Truck Union, Dharuhera
3. Truck Union, Kund (Kundal)
4. Truck Union, Mahendragarh
5. Truck Union, Narnaul
6. Co-operative Transport Union, Nangal Chaudhry

By the end of March, 1978, there were 24 private goods transport companies in the district. Most of these are located in private houses.

RAILWAYS

A close net work of railway lines connects the important towns of the district with Delhi and New Delhi. Out of 25 railway stations and 3 halts in the district, 13 stations are served by Western Railway and 12 stations and 3 halts by Northern Railway. The railway lines have their centre at Rewari which is an important junction on the Northern and Western Railways. All stations lie on the metre gauge lines. The railway line between Delhi and Rewari has been converted into double-track so as to cope up with the heavy pressure of traffic.

A brief description of the railway lines existing and passing through the district is given below :—

Delhi-Rewari railway line (Northern Railway).—This being the oldest railway line in the district was constructed in 1873. It is a metre-gauge line which enters the district from Gurgaon side, the first railway station falling thereon is Khalilpur. It covers a distance of 9 kilometres in the district. It was made a double-line to cope up with the heavy pressure of traffic. It has greatly helped in the economic uplift of the area and has contributed to the development of local industries.

Rewari-Bhatinda-Fazilka Railway Line (Northern Railway).—This metre-gauge railway line was constructed in 1883 and traverses only 22 kilometres in the district. It is an extension of Delhi-Rewari railway line which was further extended from Bhatinda to Fazilka in 1884. It passes through the district via Kishangarh Balawas Halt, Jatusana and Nangal Pathani Halt.

Bikaner-Delhi Railway Line (Northern Railway).—The Rewari Sadulpur (Rajasthan) section of this railway line was opened to traffic in 1941. This is a metre-gauge line and traverses the district by covering 64 kilometres and passes through Nangali Mundi, Aulant Halt, Dahina Jainabad, Kanina, Gudha Kaimla, Bhojawas, Mahendragarh, Zerpur and Pali and leaves the district thereafter. With the opening of railway track from the Rewari to Sadulpur the distance between Delhi and Sadulpur has been reduced by 72 kilometres.

Phulera-Rewari Railway Line (Western Railway).—This is a metre-gauge line which was constructed in 1904. It covers 73.01 kilometres in the district and passes through Khorī, Pali, Kund, Kathuwas, Ateli, Mirjapur, Bachhod, Narnaul, Amarpur Jorasi and Nizampur stations and leaves the district towards Nim-Ka-Thana (Rajasthan).

Delhi-Bandi Kui-Ajmer-Ahemadabad Railway Line (Western Railway).—The Delhi-Rewari metre-gauge railway line which was constructed in 1873, was extended from Rewari towards Bandikui (Rajasthan) between 1873-1882. The railway line leads from Rewari to Alwar and traverses the district for 25.05 kilometres and passes through Bharawas, Bawal and Majri Nangal stations.

A total length of railway tracks in the district is 193.06 kilometres (Northern Railway 95 kilometres and Western Railway 98.06 kilometres) and these tracks connect the district with Delhi, Rohtak, Bhiwani, Alwar, Jaipur, Sikar and Jhunjhunu. The railways play an important role in the economic life of the people by exporting surplus commodities and importing deficit commodities.

TRANSPORT BY AIR

No station of the district is air linked, however, Narnaul has been provided with a pucca runway of 3000×75 ft. for emergency air communication round the year.

TRAVEL/TOURIST FACILITIES

Dharmshalas are available for people visiting the towns, either on business or otherwise. The guest houses and hotels are gaining popu-

larity in the district. In villages, there are *chopals* and *dharmsalas* for the stay of marriage parties and other common purposes. A few rest places known as *chatris* have been built by people in the memory of their ancestors.

There are rest houses at all important places in the district for the stay of touring officials. These rest houses are maintained by different departments. A list of the rest houses alongwith the number of sets/suites and the officers who make reservations is given in Table VIII of Appendix.

A list of the *dharmsalas* as on March 31, 1978 is given in Table IX of Appendix. The following *dharmsalas* in the district provide all the modern facilities to the travellers :—

- (a) Aakoliwalon-ki-Dharmsala, Narnaul
- (b) Dharmsala Lafa Musadi Lal, Narnaul
- (c) Chaudhry Har Parsad Dharmsala, Narnaul
- (d) Satya Narayan Dharmsala, Rewari
- (e) Saini Dharmsala, Rewari
- (f) Dharmsala Museddi Mal Sirohiwala, Mahendragarh
- (g) Dharmsala Shri Tota Ram-Ramjas Mal Hohri, Mahendragarh
- (h) Sainio-ki-Dharmsala, Mahendragarh

Eating places comprise *dhabas* and the tea-stalls. The State Tourism Department has opened 'Jungle Babbler Hotel and Restaurant at Dharuhera on Delhi-Alwar-Rewari-Jaipur Road. The reservation is done by the Tourist Officer, Chanderlok Building Janpath, New Delhi and the Supervisor at Dharuhera.

POSTS, TELEPHONES AND TELEGRAPH

Posts

In 1860 A.D., the postal system was organised in the Princely State of Patiala under the control of the *munshi khana* (Foreign Office). Runners' lines were laid between various *thanas* of the State and the public was allowed to post letters at these *thanas* at a charge of two *mansuri* paisa per letter prepaid and 4 *mansuri* paisa unpaid. A special officer on a salary of Rs. 30 per mensem was appointed by the *munshikhana* as *munsarim* of the postal arrangements. The postal service was given out on contract to Shri Ganga Ram, who undertook the appointment of the runners and *sarbarahs* or overseers. All postal articles were made over to the runners, who were made responsible to the Deputy Superintendents of Police; these officials received the

moneys paid for postage from the runners and remitted them monthly to the treasury, where the balance after paying the amount due by contract to the State, was handed over to the contractor. The method of payment of postage was by British stamps bought by the contractor at their face value and retailed by him. Stamps used on public service were registered and their value credited to the contractor. Postal articles for the then British India were despatched already stamped through Rajpura (Punjab), where a clerk was stationed who delivered them to the British post office, paying the usual rates. Similarly, articles from British territory were despatched by a clerk stationed at Narnaul.

There were no facilities for money-orders, insurance or other minor branches of postal business.

In 1884 A.D., a Postal Convention was signed between the Imperial Government and the State (Aitchison's Treaties, Volume ix, No. xxx), which was modified in 1900 A.D. By this agreement, a mutual exchange of correspondence, parcels, money-orders and Indian postal notes was established between the Imperial Post Office and the Patiala State Post, registered value payable and insured articles being included. Stamps surcharged with the words "Patiala State" were supplied by the British Government to the Patiala State at cost price and were recognised by the Imperial post office when attached to inland correspondence posted within the limits of the State.

Narnaul was graded as IInd class postal head office. Mahendragarh as a sub-post office, Nangal Chaudhry and Bawana as branch post offices were under the Narnaul head office.

As already mentioned that Bawal territory was a part of Nabha State. Since the agreement made with the British Government in July, 1885 for the exchange of postal facilities, postal arrangements were much the same as in British territory. British stamps were surcharged "Nabha State" and post cards and envelopes so surcharged and also bearing the arms of the state were supplied by the government to the State at cost price and were recognised by the Imperial Post Office when posted within the state for inland correspondence only. These stamps were distinct from the State service labels which were used for State Correspondence, posted to places outside the state, state correspondence within its own borders being carried without stamps.

There were full facilities for money-orders, the commission on which was credited to the state. There was a head office at Bawal and its accounts were cleared through Delhi. Under the Bawal head post office, there were two branch post offices at Kanina and Kanti.

Rewari was a part of Gurgaon district. In 1883-84, there were Imperial Post Offices at Rewari, Jatusana and Khole. There was a telegraph office at Rewari in 1904. Between 1904 and 1908 a number of small offices were abolished and a new one at Kund Railway station was added. In 1912, Ateli branch post office was a part of Ballabgarh sub-office (Now a part of Gurgaon district). In 1935, the postal facilities were available at the following places¹ :—

Sub-Office	Branch Post Offices
Rewari	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Ahrod 2. Balwari 3. Bikaner 4. Bhagawat Bhagti Asharam, Rewari 5. Bharawas 6. Cheelarh 7. Garhi Bolni 8. Gokalgarh 9. Jatusana 10. Khole 11. Khorl 12. Meerpur 13. Mandola 14. Tankri 15. Turkiyawas

Dahina branch post office was under the Hodal sub post office while Nangal Pathani and Dharuhera branch post offices functioned under the Nuh and Palwal sub-offices respectively.

The postal facilities in the whole district including Rewari tahsil increased rapidly after Independence. Due to the territorial changes of Gurgaon district in 1972, 10 sub-offices and 82 branch post offices in the Rewari area were placed in the jurisdiction of Mahendragarh district. In 1978, there was one head post office at Narnaul, 21 sub-post offices and 170 branch post offices in the district.

All the villages in the district were provided daily mail delivery and in the towns the mail was delivered on all days except Sundays and postal holidays.

The postal arrangements of Mahendragarh district falls under the Gurgaon Postal Division. This division is under the charge of the

1. *Gurgaon District, Statistical Tables*, 1935, p. 31.

Senior Superintendent of the Post Offices, Gurgaon, and covers the Gurgaon and Mahendragarh districts and has been divided into five sub-divisions, viz : Gurgaon (E), Gurgaon (W), Faridabad, Rewari and Narnaul; each under the charge of an Inspector of Post Offices.

Telephones

In 1978, 7 telephone exchanges were functioning in the district at the following places :—

Name of Exchange	Year of Establishment	No. of Connections
Rewari	1952	655
Narnaul	1955	279
Ateli Mandi	1965	35
Mahendragarh	1965	41
Kanina	1967	29
Kund (Kundal)	1975	22
Dahina	1976	17

Rewari is directly connected with Ambala, Alwar, Charkhi Dadri, Dahina, Delhi, Gurgaon, Hisar, Kanina, Kund (Kundal), Loharu, Narnaul, Nuh and Rohtak. The same facility is available at Narnaul which is directly connected with Alwar, Delhi, Mahendragarh, Ateli Mandi and Rewari.

The telephone facility was available for the general public at the following call offices :—

1. Bawal
2. Head Post Office, Rewari
3. Railway Station, Rewari
4. Bus Stand, Rewari
5. Civil Hospital, Rewari
6. Kanina
7. Kund
8. Nangal Chaudhry

9. Nizampur
10. Khole
11. Head Post Office, Narnaul
12. Kutchery Post Office, Narnaul
13. City Post Office, Narnaul
14. Ateli Mandi Post Office
15. Post Office, Mahendragarh
16. Pali
17. Nangal Sirohi

Telegraphs

Initially, there were telegraph offices at all railway stations, but later postal telegraph offices were also opened. In 1978, the telegraph facilities were available at following places :—

- Narnaul (Head Post Office)
- Ateli Mandi
- Nangal Chaudhry
- Narnaul City
- Narnaul Katchery
- Rewari (Head Post Office)
- Palahwas
- Rewari Model Town
- Khole
- Khori
- Kund (Kundal)
- Dahina
- Dharuhera
- Dharan
- Rewari (General Bus Stand)
- Mahendragarh
- Nangal Sirohi
- Bawana
- Kanina
- Bawal

CHAPTER VIII

MISCELLANEOUS OCCUPATIONS

Miscellaneous occupations occupy the remnant, yet important status in the occupational structure of the society; remnant because they do not fall in major categories, viz. agriculture, industry, transport, communications, etc. and important because they cover most varied and wide range of influential services in their fold. These occupations in urban as well as rural areas constitute a significant part of the life of the people and the pattern is the same as elsewhere in the state. These occupations cover public and defence services and those engaged in earning a livelihood on self-employed basis. In addition, there are a few persons who are engaged in domestic services and work as cook, bearers, servants, gardeners and chowkidars. Some women work as *ayas* or part-time maid servants.

PUBLIC SERVICES

Employment in government administration is highly valued because of the job security and other facilities connected therewith. The persons in government services are given dearness allowance related to some extent to the cost of living. In addition, class IV employees are provided with liveries, conveyance allowance and washing allowance. Residential accommodation is also made available wherever possible. There is also a provision for compulsory contribution to provident fund for government employees so that their dependents may not feel economic hardship in case of their premature death or on superannuation. They are also entitled to the benefits of gratuity and pension after retirement. All government employees and their dependents are given free medical treatment at government hospitals and dispensaries. They are also allowed reimbursement of expenses incurred for medical treatment. Loans for the construction of residential buildings, marriage of dependents and for the purchase of vehicles are granted to them. The grade IV employees are provided interest free loans for the purchase of wheat; recoverable during the same financial year. The employees who have not been provided with government accommodation are being given house rent allowance according to the classification of towns on the basis of population. The employees have been given a right of forming associations.

There has been an increase in the number of jobs in the public services under the state and central governments as also local bodies

and quasi-government organisations after Independence. After the formation of Haryana, a sizeable part of the working population was able to get jobs in public services in the district.

In 1975, the total number of employees in the public sector was 13,233 which increased to 13,957 in 1976 reflecting an increase of 5.5 per cent. Again in 1978, the number of employees in this sector rose to 14,951 representing an increase of 12.97 per cent compared to the year 1975.

DEFENCE SERVICES

The district contributed a large number of recruits to the different branches of the defence services during the two World Wars. The soldiers of this district gave prestigious performance in World War II and Victoria Cross was awarded to Sub. Richhpal Ram in 1941-42 and Sub. Ram Sarup Singh in 1944-45. A large number of soldiers from the district fought in NEFA, Western and Eastern areas when the Chinese invaded India in 1962 and during Pakistan hostilities in 1965 and 1971. The following defence personnel received gallantry awards for distinguished services :

Recipient	Gallantry award	Year in which granted
1	2	3
1. Hav. Hira Lal	Vir Chakra	1947
2. Sub./Hony. Capt. Hoshiar Singh Yadav	Vir Chakra	1948
3. Sub. Sardul Singh	Vir Chakra	1948
4. Hav. Dhansi Ram	Vir Chakra	1948
5. Hav. Agna Ram	Vir Chakra	1948
6. N/Sub. Dharam Chand Dhillan	Vir Chakra	1962
7. Sub./Hony. Capt. Ram Chander	Vir Chakra	1962
8. L/NK. Ram Singh	Vir Chakra	1947
9. Sub./Hony. Capt. Ram Kumar Yadav	Vir Chakra	1962
10. N/Sub Ram Chander	Vir Chakra	1962
11. Sub. Dharam Singh	Vir Chakra	1962

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12.	L/NK. Singh Ram	Vir Chakra	1962
13.	NK. Gulab Singh	Vir Chakra	1965
14.	NK. Jagdish Singh	Vir Chakra	1965
15.	L/Hav. Umrao Singh	Vir Chakra	1965
16.	NK. Budh Singh	Vir Chakra	1965
17.	NK. Ram Kumar	Vir Chakra	1965
18.	Sub. Nand Kishor	Vir Chakra	1971
19.	Sub. Nanji Ram	Vir Chakra	1971
20.	Cmdr. B.B. Yadav	M.V.C.	1971
21.	Seaman Chaman Singh Yadav	M.V.C.	1971
22.	Hav. Nand Ram	Vir Chakra	1971
23.	Dfr. Ram Chander	Vir Chakra	1971

The number of ex-servicemen and active soldiers in the districts during 1977-78 was 16,951 and 4,315 respectively.

The state government has granted several concessions to the armed forces personnel and their families belonging to Haryana. These concessions include rewards in the form of cash and annuity to winners of gallantry decorations; employment concessions by way of reservation of vacancies, age and educational relaxation; and pension, *ex-gratia* grants and educational grants to the armed forces personnel or the families of those killed, disabled or declared missing. These concessions are graded according to the status of the personnel or the extent of disability. Further facilities by way of reservation of industrial and residential plots, houses of the Housing Board, Haryana, and exemption from house tax are also provided to the ex-servicemen.

The Zila Sainik Board, Mahendragarh, looks after the welfare of the ex-servicemen and the families of the serving defence personnel. Two funds, namely, Post War Service Reconstruction Fund raised during the World War-II and the Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen have been started by the Government of India for the welfare of ex-servicemen and their dependents. The income from these funds is mainly utilised for grant of stipends to ex-servicemen/their dependents and grant of loans to the ex-servicemen for their rehabilitation.

The objects of the Special Fund for Reconstruction and Rehabilitation of Ex-servicemen are as follows :—

1. To award stipends to ex-servicemen for technical and vocational training at a recognised training institute;
2. to sanction grants or loans to co-operative societies or other associations of ex-servicemen for schemes and projects of resettlement, i.e., horticulture, animal husbandry, industry, transport, and the like;
3. to sanction scholarship or grants to dependents of ex-servicemen for higher studies in India beyond high or higher secondary stage in technical, vocational or agricultural education;
4. to sanction expenditure or special measures of a collective nature for the maintenance of old and destitute ex-servicemen or widows of ex-servicemen;
5. to grant loans to individual ex-servicemen for starting industries or business undertakings; and
6. to do all other things to promote measures for the benefits of ex-servicemen and their dependents.

SERVICES IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR

With the growth of economic activity, employment avenues are increasing within private sector also. Although the people prefer government employment due to security of service and benefits of dearness allowance, house rent allowance, etc. yet the private sector absorbs a significant section of the population. The skilled and experienced persons in private sector get an edge even over the government employees in the matter of wages and perks. The provision of bonus, overtime allowance, contributory provident fund and non-transferable status of the employment are quite a few provisions which make employment in private sector attractive. The industrial and commercial establishments, shops, schools and other educational institutions provide an employment in private sector. Only 1,597 persons (9.6 per cent of the total employment) were employed in the district in private sector in 1978. Excluding Jind district the employment in private sector in the district is still the lowest among all the districts of the state. There are adequate measures under various labour laws to look after the welfare of workers in industrial establishment¹.

The commercial establishments and shopkeepers in towns employ

1. For more details see Chapter on 'Other Social Services'.

assistants, shop assistants, salesmen and helpers. The working conditions and wages of these employees are regulated through the provisions of the Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958. In March 1978, 1,045 workers were covered under the Act.

The pay scales of teachers in private institutions, which are recognised and receive grants from the government, are same as of those in government institutions. The teachers in private colleges like those in government colleges are governed by scales prescribed by the University Grants Commission.

Besides the above categories, there are a few professions which move independently and play no less important role in the life of the people in the district. One of these is category of private medical practitioners and another class is that of private transporters who have bus, motor cars, trucks, matadors, tempos and autorickshaws for their employment.

PERSONAL SERVICES

Among these are included barbers, washermen and tailors.

Barbers.—Their number which also included hair dressing saloons and beauty shops, according to 1971 Census, was 904.

The old practice of family barber in the urban areas has become extinct. Now a days people go to hair cutting saloons for hair-cut and shaving purposes. Affluent and wealthy persons, however, arrange barber services at their home and pay their charges.

In villages, the old tradition of family barber has lost its importance but a few old barbers still engage themselves to this profession in general and not in a particular family. He receives his remuneration in kind or cash. The hair-cutting charges are Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.50 and shaving charges are fixed at Re. 1.

Washermen.—In 1971, their number was 200. These included launders, *dhobis* and dry cleaners and dyers. Out of these, 170 persons were engaged in urban areas and the remaining 30 in rural areas. Due to quick and efficient service, the launders are gaining popularity over *dhobis*. Many exclusive shops of dry cleaning have also been opened. Some dyers also serve in rural areas.

Tailors.—These included cutters, furriers and related workers and their number according to 1971 Census was 357. In the urban areas the tailors make shirts, bushirts, pants and *pyjamas* and suits while in the rural areas they generally make trousers, *kurti*, suits and *lehangas* besides the clothes of latest fashion.

Tailors who run their own shops are called master tailors and employ 1 to 10 persons depending upon the workload and the accommodation available. They are either paid monthly or on job basis. Master tailors employed by them usually do the stitching job. The sewing charges vary from place to place and shop to shop as per their skill and specialisation. The practice of family tailors has almost vanished. However, on certain occasion, i.e. marriage, the tailors are called at home for stitching clothes.

SELF-EMPLOYED PERSONS

The scope of work of self-employed persons is wide. It includes *julahas* (weavers), *mochis* (shoe-makers), sweepers, potters, stone-dressers, hand-cart pedlars, hawkers, and all other persons who work for their living or sell their individual services on demand. Changing circumstances give rise to some new occupations, for example, the public eating houses. The growing habit of eating out-side has led to the growth of restaurants, snack bars, coffee houses and tea stalls. Likewise, the desire to wear standardised clothes is responsible for shops dealing in ready-made garments. The increasing use of bicycles, auto-cycles, cycle-rickshaws, mopeds, scooters and motor cars has been responsible for cycle-repairers and auto-mechanics. The recent trend toward mechanised farming has led to the opening of tractor repair workshops. A number of shops dealing in agricultural implements and motor and tractor spare parts have also been set up. There is a host of shops of all kinds, *halwai* shops, *pan-bidi* shops, shops manufacturing or selling aerated water (soft drinks), shops dealing in grocery and vegetables and fruit shops. Bakeries sell their products directly or through agents. Goldsmiths manufacture gold and silver ornaments. Shops dealing in general merchandise, oilman's stores and consumer goods and novelties also cater to the needs of the people. Self-employed persons also include street singers, jugglers and quacks.

The *julahas* (weavers), *mochis* (shoe-makers), potters and sweepers are spread throughout the district. Most of them in the rural areas still help the farmers in their agricultural activities and perform their customary professional services on the occasion of marriages and other ceremonies. The *mochis* who function only as cobblers usually roam about in the streets, hanging their equipments by the shoulders in a box. They usually attend to the repairing, mending and reconditioning of shoes. Others who take to shoe-making have their own shops and undertake the making of new shoes. The potters make ordinary vessels mostly for the use of villagers. The earthen pitchers and *surahis* are sold in large number during summer season both in urban and rural

areas. The sweepers engaged in cleaning houses in urban areas get a few rupees per month in addition to a *chapati* daily or weekly and occasionally small gifts in cash or kind on festivals and ceremonial occasions. In recent years, owing to better employment facilities and privileges, the sweepers have been shifting over to services in government offices and private organisations.

The hand-cart pedlars and hawkers go about the towns and villages hawking their goods. The goods which they sell include among other articles of daily use, vegetables, fruits, eatables, general merchandise, crockery, cloth and toys.

Except in very small villages, a tea-stall of some kind has made its appearance depending on the clientele, local and otherwise which patronizes it. The smaller ones managed by a single person and serving nothing but tea are generally shabby. The bigger ones which also serve other hot and cold beverages and some eatables are more presentable in appearance and are managed by more than one person. A few modern-type restaurants have also sprung up in the urban areas and these engage cooks and bearers according to the size and requirements of the establishments.

The rapid and continuous increase in the number of bicycles both in the urban and rural areas has made the bicycle repairing much popular. No high skill is required for this job. Bicycle repairers are, therefore, found in every nook and corner of the district. Although slack during rainy season, the business remains brisk throughout the year particularly during the summer when persons with bicycle repair tools can be seen under the shade of trees by the roadside. On the other hand, the auto-mechanics have their shops only in urban areas.

In every town and a big village one comes across shops dealing in general merchandise. These goods comprise toilet articles (as combs, hair-brushes, mirrors, etc.), soaps, oils, tooth-pastes, tooth-brushes, shoe-polishes, hosiery articles, ready-made garments and other articles of daily use. They have flourishing business and with the rise in the standard of living there is an increasing demand for consumer goods and in fact new shops are coming into existence.

Every town and big village of the district has a number of *halwai* shops. In the old days their familiar sweetmeat preparations were *laddus* and *jalebis*. The development of communications and an increasing contact with other parts of the country have introduced some new sweetmeat preparations like *gulab jamuns*, *rasgullas*, *barfi* and *halwas* of different varieties. In urban areas sweetmeats prepared from milk

are more popular. These shops generally employ two or three or even more persons according to the requirements of the establishments. This business provides employment throughout the year.

Pan-bidi stalls are tiny shops which are a familiar sight throughout the district. These one-man units in towns which usually sell cigarettes also become social centres for people who stop to listen to the radio broadcasts and film music and talk about current events.

A grocer supplies the basic necessities of daily use. A number of such shops can be found in every locality. Although these are one-man establishments, sometime a helper is also engaged. Every town has a number of shops selling vegetables and fruits. Enterprising people carry vegetables and fruits on their *rehris* and sell these to customers at their doors.

It is not unusual to come across a bakery even in a small town. The bakeries have gained popularity owing to the demand for their ready products. The bakery units sell their products in wholesale as well as in retail. Usually the grocers and hawkers buy these products wholesale and retail these to their customers along with other articles.

Different types of gold and silver ornaments are prepared in goldsmiths' shops. The ordinary goldsmiths cannot afford to purchase or stock precious metals like gold and silver. These are, therefore, supplied to them by the customers who place orders for ornaments. However, richer goldsmiths have their own stock and they prepare ornaments even without taking gold and silver in advance from the customers. This business is very brisk at the time of marriages.

Common jugglers usually earn their living by showing feats of jugglery and other tricks to an audience they manage to collect. Occasionally, we may find a *bandarwala* or *richhwala* entertaining the people by showing the feats of monkeys or the bear he has trained for the purpose. The snake-charmer also belongs to this category. What these people collect in return for the entertainment they provide is anybody's guess. The quack who exhibits his medicinal stuff on the roadside and uses his powers of oratory to extol the potency of his medicines is a familiar sight everywhere. He is usually successful in palming off his stuff to credulous people and before long moves off to another station to avoid receiving complaints about his ineffective preparations.

In Rewari town there are large number of *thatheras*, working on piece meal basis. *Thatheras* do hand work on brass and pewter utensils like engraving or making some designs on these. These people take the raw material to their homes and work on them and

return the finished products to the shopkeepers thereby earning their livelihood.

The people of the district are educationally very backward. However, they are in the grip of orthodoxy. Art of astrology, palmistry and performance of religious rites have become full-time occupations and are the main source of incomes of *Purohit* (Pandit), *Poojari*, *Padre* and *Granthi*. The priests conduct worship and perform rites in accordance with religious scriptures and recognised practices in a temple and make their living in return for their services. The astrologers prepare and interpret horoscopes to tell past events and make prediction about future. Palmists also read lines of hands and other symbols of persons and thus they make a handsome living.

DOMESTIC SERVICES

The domestic services include cooks, servants and maid servants. Employing of a domestic servant was considered as a sign of affluence, in the past. People of high class in towns and some land-lords in villages used to engage servants for domestic work. These servants were drawn mostly from under-employed population. A domestic servant was paid little in addition to meal and clothes till about the first quarter of 20th century. With the passage of time and opening of other avenues which provided increasing opportunities of employment elsewhere, the domestic service has become costlier and is not easily available. However, part time maid servants to supplement their meagre family income help in washing and cleaning of utensils on an average payment of Rs. 25 to Rs. 30 per month. A few domestic servants who come from other parts of the country, have been employed by affluents and are paid Rs. 80 to Rs. 100 per mensem beside food and clothing. Some people employ *palis* for grazing their cattle, *halis* for ploughing the fields and others for agricultural operations on contract basis in rural areas, and hardly any family employs servants for domestic work. Mostly women attend to their domestic work themselves, however the *halis* and other agricultural labourers employed besides attending to agricultural operations, do domestic work of their masters. These persons who are generally landless labourers are paid fixed proportion of the harvest or cash wages.

CHAPTER IX

ECONOMIC TRENDS

LIVELIHOOD PATTERN

Prior to Independence (1947), the people were entirely dependent on land or subsidiary profession of animal husbandry. The land was not fertile and was hardly able to provide livelihood to the people. Sheep and goats were reared by a large section of population. The artisans like carpenter, potter, blacksmith, weaver, dyer and tailor existed almost in all villages. The trade which was limited to local area was not much gainful and many traders left for other places for business. Besides, poor and landless people also left for other places during harvesting season and collected grain for their labour and returned to their original places. Compelled by these worst economic conditions, the young men had to join the army during World War I and World War II.

The livelihood pattern did not undergo a change till 1947. During the post-Independence period, the material condition of the people improved somewhat, but the encouraging results on economic front and vast expansion of means of living were visible after the formation of Haryana.

Of the total population (7,34,143), there were 1,69,174 (1,63,403 male workers and 5,771 female workers) workers as per Census of 1971. The non-working population stood at 5,64,969 (2,19,794 males and 3,45,175 females). The ratio of workers to non-workers was 23:77. The tahsilwise details of workers and non-workers are given in the table below :—

	Workers			Non-workers		
	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
Narnaul	56,769	1,441	58,210	70,468	1,14,283	1,84,751
Mahendragarh	35,250	1,381	36,631	46,298	73,081	1,19,379
Rewari ¹	71,384	2,949	74,333	1,03,028	1,57,811	2,60,839
Total :	1,63,403	5,771	1,69,174	2,19,794	3,45,175	5,64,969

On the basis of economic activities pursued, the working population was classified into eight categories as per 1971 Census and the detailed classification

1. Bawal tahsil was a part of Rewari tahsil at the time of 1971 Census

is given in the following table :—

Industrial Category	Number of workers			Percentage to total number of workers
	Males	Females	Total	
1. As cultivators	92,321	2,310	94,631	55.94
2. As agricultural labourers	17,007	1,758	18,765	11.09
3. In mining, quarrying, livestock, forestry, fishing, hunting, plantation, orchards and allied activities	1,527	36	1,563	0.92
4. In manufacturing processing servicing and repairs :				
A. (in household industry)	7,837	259	8,096	4.79
B. In other than household industry	4,824	127	4,951	2.93
5. In construction	2,054	36	2,090	1.24
6. In trade and commerce	9,833	72	9,905	5.85
7. In transport, storage and communication	4,819	12	4,831	2.85
8. In other services	23,181	1,161	24,342	14.39
Total :	1,63,403	5,771	1,69,174	100.00

The analysis of the table shows that 67.03 per cent of the total working population (cultivators 55.94 per cent and agricultural labourers 11.09 per cent) engaged in agricultural pursuits, 5.85 per cent in trade and commerce, 4.79 per cent in household industry and 14.39 per cent in other services. It may be particularly noted that this district had a large number of army personnel. The number of workers engaged in other vocations was small.

PRICES AND WAGES

Prices

The World War II created scarcity conditions in respects of many articles of need. After Independence, due to dislocation of working force, the economic activity suffered and there was a price rise. Price control was imposed by the government to stabilize the general price level. As a result of the First Five-Year Plan (1951-52 to 1955-56) agricultural production

increased considerably and prices of foodgrains fell in 1953-54. The price control on foodgrains was lifted but the upward trend in prices started again immediately thereafter. Harvest failure and various inflationary factors gave rise to prices during the Second Five-Year Plan. In the Third Five-Year Plan period (1961-62 to 1965-66), the prices of wheat, barley, rice, bajra, maize, gur, tobacco, etc. increased almost about hundred per cent.

During the Fourth-Five Year Plan (1969-70 to 1973-74), the wholesale prices registered an unprecedented upward trend. In Mahendragarh district, the price of wheat was Rs. 43, Rs. 120 and Rs. 200 per quintal in 1960, 1966 and 1974 respectively. Similar upward trend in the price of gram has also been observed during the last 15 years.

The average wholesale prices in certain selected *mandis* of the Mahendragarh district are discussed below to bring out fluctuations in prices in different parts of the district at a certain point of time :—

Narnaul Mandi

The market at Narnaul, being situated on a railway line and surrounded by Rajasthan, is a big marketing centre of the district. The following table shows the average wholesale harvest prices of various agricultural commodities in this *mandi* during 1963 to 1977 :—

Year	Name of Commodities							(Rs. per quintal)
	Wheat	Gram	Barley	Bajra	Gur	Cotton	Sarson	Desi
1963	41.53	43.54	33.49	34.83	77.75	45.55	90.50	
1966	119.00	93.00	76.00	76.00	83.00	84.00	163.00	
1970	80.00	84.00	47.00	54.00	65.00	83.00	235.00	
1973	115.00	200.00	120.00	89.00	160.00	170.00	390.00	
1974	205.00	222.00	143.00	191.00	150.00	210.00	285.00	
1975	125.00	184.00	70.00	82.00	130.00	130.00	204.00	
1976	120.00	122.00	83.00	92.00	135.00	170.00	390.00	
1977	131.00	171.00	106.00	121.00	159.00	221.00	420.00	

It shows that the prices of cereals continuously rose from 1963 to 1976 except in 1970 when there was bumper crop. The price of wheat

rose from Rs. 41.53 per quintal in 1963 to Rs. 115 in 1973 whereas it rose to Rs. 205 in 1974, being the highest price in the district up till 1977. In 1974, there was a steep rise in prices of all the foodgrains in the district. The prices of gram, barley and *bajra* were quoted at Rs. 222, Rs. 143 and Rs. 191 per quintal in 1974. The price of *sarson*, an important oil seed, showed a steady rise from Rs. 90.50 in 1963 to Rs. 285 per quintal in 1974, a significant decline to Rs. 204 in 1975 and again a steep rise to Rs. 420 in 1977.

The relative prices of commodities in other important *mandis* of the district are shown below :—

Mahendragarh Mandi

Year	Name of Commodities							(Rs. per quin g l)
	Wheat	Gram	Barley	Bajra	Gur	Cotton Desi	Sarson	
1963	43.00	44.00	33.50	40.00	79.00	47.00	82.00	
1966	120.00	98.00	79.15	73.25	82.55	108.00	160.00	
1970	90.00	82.00	49.00	52.00	65.00	120.00	186.00	
1973	110.00	200.00	110.00	71.00	175.00	165.00	350.00	
1974	200.00	228.00	130.00	195.00	140.00	209.00	252.00	
1975	135.00	180.00	70.00	85.00	130.00	185.00	178.00	
1976	131.00	116.00	86.00	86.00	140.00	190.00	350.00	
1977	126.00	168.00	99.00	115.00	137.00	211.00	352.00	

Ateli Mandi

Year	Name of Commodities							(Rs. per quintal)
	Wheat	Gram	Barley	Bajra	Gur	Cotton	Sarson	
1963	50.00	44.20	32.00	38.10	83.10	45.50	51.50	
1966	120.00	85.00	74.90	71.00	88.00	96.00	164.00	
1970	80.00	83.00	45.00	51.00	100.00	135.00	184.00	
1973	110.00	203.00	113.00	89.00	145.00	180.00	365.00	
1974	200.00	224.00	135.00	180.00	200.00	225.00	251.00	

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
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1975	130.00	180.00	73.00	76.00	132.00	155.00	179.00
1976	135.00	125.00	85.00	96.00	135.00	200.00	350.00
1977	120.50	172.00	109.00	121.50	140.50	209.00	384.00

Kanina Mandi

1963	45.00	41.30	33.00	37.00	80.00	58.00	88.00
1966	120.00	90.00	80.00	76.00	78.00	100.00	162.00
1970	171.00	82.00	41.00	50.00	73.00	112.00	176.00
1973	104.00	200.00	117.00	89.00	140.00	185.00	320.00
1974	195.00	226.00	125.00	200.00	160.00	225.00	208.00
1975	135.00	175.00	70.00	75.00	130.00	170.00	180.00
1976	105.00	124.00	85.00	90.00	150.00	210.00	345.00
1977	124.50	170.00	106.00	101.00	147.00	231.00	362.00

Rewari Mandi¹

1973	105.00	202.00	126.00	88.00	160.00	155.00	350.00
1974	200.00	232.00	143.00	193.00	160.00	215.00	285.00
1975	135.00	180.00	72.00	85.00	140.00	150.00	208.00
1976	133.00	124.00	90.00	85.00	125.00	192.00	328.00
1977	137.00	171.00	117.00	116.00	124.00	197.00	402.00

In four other *mandis* of the district, viz. Mahendragarh, Ateli, Kanina and Rewari, there was a steep rise in average wholesale prices of almost all agricultural commodities in 1974. However, in Mahendragarh *mandi* the price of *gur* declined from Rs. 175 per quintal in 1973 to Rs. 140 in 1974. In the same *mandi* the price of gram slightly increased from Rs. 200 per quintal in 1973 to Rs. 228 in 1974. Similarly in Kanina *mandi*, the price of *sarson*

1. Rewari town was included in the district by the end of 1972. Therefore, the prices have been shown from 1973 onwards. Since the *mandi* of Rewari, Ateli and Narnaul are situated on the same railway line from Rewari to Ajmer, there was a little change in prices.

declined from Rs. 320 per quintal in 1973 to Rs. 208 in 1974. In Rewari *mandi*, the price of *sarson* also declined from Rs. 350 per quintal in 1973 to Rs. 285 in 1974. The average wholesale prices of most of the agricultural commodities started declining in all the above *mandis* in the year 1975. However, the price of *sarson* started rising from the year 1976.

The retail prices of foodgrains prevailing at Narnaul, from 1970 to 1977, are shown in the following table :—

Commodity	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	(Rs. per kilogram)		
						1975	1976	1977
Wheat	0.90	0.90	1.03	1.15	2.20	1.40	1.30	1.38
Gram	1.25	1.00	1.35	2.10	2.45	1.90	1.20	1.80
Barley	0.90	0.55	1.00	1.10	1.60	0.85	1.20	1.19
<i>Bajra</i>	0.60	0.60	0.90	0.95	2.00	0.95	0.95	1.28
Rice	1.25	1.25	1.45	2.00	2.80	2.10	2.20	1.81
<i>Gur</i>	1.80	1.50	1.90	1.80	2.10	1.60	2.00	1.78
Milk	1.75	1.20	1.20	1.65	2.20	2.00	2.00	2.29
Ghee	13.50	13.00	13.25	19.50	22.50	22.00	23.50	24.57
Mustard Oil	10.00	5.00	5.60	9.00	11.00	5.25	8.25	10.14
Kerosene (per litre)	0.67	0.70	0.75	0.93	1.20	1.39	1.37	1.37

It is observed that the average retail prices like wholesale prices did not rise much up to 1973, but the rise was steep in 1974. As indicated in the above table, the price of one kilogram wheat was 90 paise in 1970 but rocketed to Rs. 2.20 in 1974. In 1977, its price was Rs. 1.38 per kilogram. The prices of all the commodities rose considerably in 1974. There has been much fluctuation in the prices of mustard oil. It reduced to half in 1971 as compared to 1970. Afterwards, it started rising and reached a climax of Rs. 11 per kilogram in 1974. Its price in 1977 was quoted at Rs. 10.14 per kilogram. Kerosene oil was quoted at Rs. 0.67 per litre in 1970 and its price almost doubled in a short period of six years.

Rewari is the only big industrial town in the district where consumer price index of working class was prepared. Consumer price index of working class for food and general articles from 1956-57 to 1966-67 whereafter it was discontinued, is shown below for Rewari town :—

(Base 1950-51 = 100)

Year	Food	General	Increase/decrease in prices over pre- vious year- percentage
1956-57	104	104	..
1957-58	107	167	60.57
1958-59	120	119	(-)28.74
1959-60	124	123	3.36
1960-61	126	125	1.63
1961-62	129	130	4.00
1962-63	127	132	1.54
1963-64	134	138	4.55
1964-65	160	155	12.32
1965-66	167	185	6.45
1966-67	214	199	20.61

The above table indicates that the price level during 1957-58 was more or less the same in respect of food articles but it rose to 63 per cent in other items, which is quite considerable. The prices of food articles continued to increase steadily from 1956-57 to 1966-67 and rose to 114 per cent during this period. The price increase during 1964-65 and 1966-67 was quite significant.

Price index in respect of general articles has also been very much fluctuating. The general price level rose continuously till 1966-67. In 1958-59, the rise was 19 per cent of the base year but it was not so sharp during 1959-60 to 1963-64. In 1964-65, it rose by 12 per cent over the previous year and by 6.45 per cent in 1965-66 over 1964-65. The price rise was, however, tremendous in 1966-67 when in a single year it rose by 20.61 per cent. Beating the previous 10-year record during the period of 16 years from 1950-51 to 1966-67, the price level rose by 99 per cent in Rewari.

This state of affairs was not, however, peculiar to Rewari alone. During the same period, in other parts of the State, the prices increased by 99 per cent in Bhiwani, 81 per cent in Panipat and 94 per cent in Ambala Cantt.

In the year 1957-58, price index rose to 167. In 1958-59 it came to 119, and started rising steadily till 1966-67 when it rose to 199.

Wages

In olden times when means of communications were not properly developed and movement either of commodities or wage-earners was restricted. Production of foodgrains and other commodities used to have substantial effect on the rates of wages in a particular region. With the development of roads and means of communication, the conditions changed after Independence throughout the country as a whole.

Wages paid to workers are classified into three broad categories, i.e. monthly wages, wages paid to the casual workers and daily wages. Wages may vary from person to person and for different type of work for the same person. It is difficult to give precisely the wages prevailing in the past in the district. In 1977-78, the wage rate for a whole-time worker ranged from Rs. 160 to Rs. 250 p.m., for a part-time worker from Rs. 90 to Rs. 150 and for a daily worker it ranged from Rs. 6 per day to Rs. 15 per day depending upon the type of work.

In general, the wages for agricultural labourers are determined by the practice prevalent in the area and mutual understanding of the labourers and landlords. It is also regulated, though to a small extent, by the forces of demand and supply due to their immobile character. Some labourers may be hired for less wages at the time of lean working season and for higher wages during the harvesting season. The wages for various occupations are paid in cash or in kind or in both. In addition to the cash payment, meals, *bidi* and tea are also provided to casual labourers. At the time of ploughing, harvesting, weeding, etc., the normal working hours are extended from sunrise to sunset with about an hour's rest. The skilled labourers like carpenters, masons and blacksmiths are employed on daily wages and are paid higher amount than unskilled labourers. Rates for some of the major agricultural operations are given below :—

(For men only)

Year	Ploughing (Rs.)	Sowing (Rs.)	Weeding (Rs.)	Harvesting (Rs.)	Other agriculture operations (Rs.)
1973	6.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
1974	6.00	5.00	5.00	5.07	5.00
1975	6.22	6.00	5.07	6.33	5.91
1976	6.22	6.22	5.67	6.33	5.91
1977	6.40	6.40	6.00	6.40	6.00

The wages for the skilled workers such as blacksmiths, carpenters, cobblers and other agricultural labourers are detailed below :—

	Blacksmith	Carpenter	Agricultural labourers	Other agriculture operations
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
July, 1977	—	11.50	6.50	6.00
August, 1977	—	11.50	8.00	10.50
September, 1977	15.00	15.00	7.00	10.50
October, 1977	7.50	6.00	6.50	6.00
November, 1977	—	18.00	6.75	7.00
December, 1977	—	11.50	7.50	6.00
January, 1978	—	11.50	6.75	6.00
February, 1978	10.00	11.50	7.25	7.25
March, 1978	17.00	18.00	7.25	7.25

Employment Situation

As already discussed that the Mahendragarh district is predominantly an agriculture area. The agricultural sector provides employment to a large number of people. But the educated youths seek employment assistance from employment exchanges.

The District Employment Exchange was started at Narnaul in 1956. A sub-office was opened at Rewari in 1961 and it was upgraded as District Employment Exchange on 1st May, 1971. In December, 1969, a rural employment exchange was opened at Mahendragarh. In August, 1974, another rural employment exchange was started at Jatusana. Now, two separate District Employment Exchanges one at Rewari and second at Narnaul and two rural employment exchanges at Mahendragarh and Jatusana are functioning in this district.

The following table shows working of the employment exchanges

in Mahendragarh district during 1974 to 1977 :—

Year	Number of Employment Exchanges	Number of Registrations	Number of Vacancies Notified	Number of Applicants Placed in Employment During the year	Applicants on the live Register	Monthly Number of Employers Using the Exchange
1974	4	14,578	3,255	2,396	9,226	23
1975	4	10,960	2,208	1,523	14,444	27
1976	4	12,970	2,946	2,423	15,485	37
1977	4	12,693	3,748	2,577	15,218	60

The above table shows an increase in the number of job seekers in the live register. The number of such persons in 1974 was 9,226 and it rose to 15,218 by the end of 1977.

The following table shows the number of un-employed persons alongwith their educational level from 1973 to 1977 :

Unemployed persons	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Post graduates	—	192	211	176	218
Graduates (Commerce)	32	30	38	27	65
Graduates (Science)	143	116	116	59	79
Graduates (Arts)	502	1,260	1,340	707	1,068
Matriculates and non-graduates	3,377	7,034	6,257	5,959	7,471
Middle	1,132	2,232	2,362	2,396	3,839
Literate and others	1,201	2,149	1,994	5,271	5,675
Other un-employed persons	241	171	130	764	864
Total :	11,628	13,134	12,448	15,353	19,279

The above table shows unemployed (in experienced) educated persons on the registration of the employment exchanges. Every year the number of fresh job seekers increases enormously. The persons with training and other experience do not form large proportion. They are

called for the developing industries in the district. One thing is, however, quite clear that the unemployment among the educated persons is becoming a complex problem.

The occupational classification of unemployed persons registered in the employment exchanges, from 1973 to 1977, is given in the following table :—

Category	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
Professional technical and related workers	1,065	1,318	1,259	1,404	1,180
Administrative, Executive and Managerial clerical and related workers	7	8	8	1	2
Clerical and related workers	129	1,519	1,002	560	522
Farmers, fishermen, hunters, loggers and related workers	23	37	46	44	110
Persons related with transport and communication	927	953	933	929	970
Craftsmen, Production process, workers and labourers not else where classified	705	785	748	11,918	12,349
Service, sport and recreation workers	305	5,524	5,214	497	506

As a part of the programme of collection of employment market information quarterly, employment returns are obtained from establishments in the public sector and from employers employing 10 or more persons in the private sector. These returns contain inter-alia information regarding vacancies which remain unfilled at the end of the quarter due to non-availability of suitable applicants. At the same time it provides the information

about the strength of the establishment. At present (March 31, 1978) there are 253 public and 60 private sector establishments on the record of employment exchanges in the district.

There is a Vocational Guidance Unit at Narnaul, which was started on March 14, 1964, where career pamphlets, books and other useful information are provided for the benefit of youth and adults. Individual/group talks are given to students and applicants by the Employment Counsellor. Career talks are given by the Vocational Guidance Counsellor to students in schools to guide them about better career and job opportunities. Individual and group counselling work is also carried out in the employment exchanges.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

When a new experiment was launched in the then Gurgaon district, Rewari tahsil was covered under this scheme in 1920. The objects of the experiment were "to jerk the villager out of his old grooves, convince him that improvement is possible, and kill his fatalism by demonstrating that both climate, disease and pest can be successfully fought", "to laugh him out of his uneconomic and unhealthy customs", and to teach him better ways of living and farming".

After the attainment of Independence in 1947, the central purpose behind all the efforts the nation has been making, as manifested in the Five-Year Plans, is to raise the standard of living and ensure better conditions of living for all sections of society.

The community development programme was introduced in the district in 1955 with a view to enlisting popular participation in the implementation of the development programmes in the blocks. It is an unique and scientific endeavour for an integrated approach to the problems and rural development, based on public participation and working through representative institutions of the people. The programme mainly lays emphasis on agriculture which is the mainstay of the people; but other aspects of life, namely ; health, sanitation, housing, education, recreation, rural arts and crafts, etc. also occupy an important place in this programme.

The pattern pertaining to the developmental programmes was slightly changed after the recommendations of the Balwant Ray Mehta Committee appointed by the Planning Commission during 1956-57.

Since then, a block has been recognised as a unit of planning and development. It has to undergo a pre-emption phase of one year during which work is confined to preliminary surveys, planning and agricultural development. The blocks pass into the Stage-II after completing the Stage I. After completing two stages, a block enters the Post Stage II period.

In 1962, the following Community Project and National Extension Service Blocks were :—

Tahsil	Block
Mahendragarh	Mahendragarh-I Mahendragarh-II
Narnaul	Narnaul-I Narnaul-II Nangal Chaudhry

After the re-organisation of the districts (Gurgaon and Mahendragarh) in December, 1972, Rewari, Bawal and Khole blocks of Rewari tahsil were transferred to Mahendragarh district. The above 3 blocks were in the Post Stage-II. The district had 9 blocks as on March 31, 1978 and the details regarding the date of inception, area and population, number of villages and panchayats in each block are shown below :—

Block	Year of opening of block	Area (in sq.kilo-metre)	Population (1971)	Number of villages	Number of Panchayats
Narnaul	1961	294.00	55,374	61	54
Ateli	1956	256.60	62,805	80	71
Nangal Chaudhry	1961	382.72	76,093	80	64
Mahendragarh	1961	534.00	62,498	70	61
Kanina	..	412.40	75,722	61	54
Rewari	1955	444.09	74,542	114	66
Khole at Rewari	1956	808.27	63,762	63	50
Bawal	1956	316.00	66,808	105	72
Jatusana	1973	333.65	72,947	80	64

As already mentioned, the main object of the programme of community development is to improve the whole texture of rural life by originating a self-generating process of change and growth, People's participation and contribution in this programme is of prime importance. It is not easy to assess this contribution because it is mostly in the shape of manual labour and voluntary participation. The achievements of these blocks cannot be set out in exact terms, hence a broad outline of their activities is given below :—

Improved seeds, implements, and fertilizers are supplied to cultivators at subsidized rates. They are encouraged to preserve dung in pits. The development authorities also help the farmer in reclaiming land and laying out model farms. Financial assistance is given for constructing percolation wells and installation of pumping sets and tubewells. Cow and buffalo

bulls of good breed are supplied to villagers. Artificial insemination centres are set-up.

Health and sanitation activities cover opening of new hospitals, rural health centres, rural dispensaries, child welfare and maternity centres, construction of drains, dry latrines and smokeless *chulahs*, pavement of streets, installation of hand pumps and construction of wells for drinking water.

Educational activities cover opening of new schools, upgrading of old schools, conversion of schools into basic type and construction and repairing of school buildings. In adult literacy centres, men and women are encouraged to learn the three Rs'. Libraries and reading rooms are started and young villagers are encouraged to organise into youth clubs. Mahila Samitis are organized for the welfare of women folk. Children's parks and *balwadis* (nurseries) are started for the benefit of the children. *Panchayat ghars*, *Harijan chaupals* and community centres are constructed and radio sets are also supplied for the benefit of the community. People are encouraged to construct roads. Besides, the villagers are also encouraged to organise themselves into cooperative credit societies, industrial societies, farming societies and service societies of various kinds.

Village and small scale industries are encouraged by setting-up demonstration-cum-training centres where villagers are trained in various arts and crafts. The block development authorities select model villages to serve as examples for other villages.

The achievements relating to the above schemes in the Mahendragarh district are given in Table X of Appendix.

CHAPTER X

GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

Mahendragarh, popularly called the Narnaul *nizamat*, was one of the five *nizamats* of the erstwhile Princely State of Patiala. It had two tahsils, namely; Mahendragarh and Narnaul. The general administration was carried on by the Nazim, Naib Nazim and tahsildars. The Nazim was practically a Deputy Commissioner having the additional powers of Sessions Judge. He thus exercised both judicial and executive powers. He heard appeals against the decisions of Naib Nazim and tahsildars in the civil, criminal and revenue cases. The ruler was the repository of all powers. The entire structure of administration was completely reorganised after Independence.

ADMINISTRATIVE DIVISION

The Mahendragarh district comprises four tahsils, namely; Mahendragarh, Rewari, Narnaul and Bawal. In 1978, there were 6 towns and 717 villages (688 inhabited and 29 un-inhabited), the number of villages in each tahsil is given below :—

Tahsil	Villages		
	Inhabited	Un-inhabited	Total
Narnaul	215	7	222
Mahendragarh	127	4	131
Rewari	266	17	283
Bawal	80	1	81
Total :	688	29	717

On the principle of decentralisation of authority in the administrative set-up, the district has been divided into three sub-divisions, namely; Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari. The Narnaul sub-division, which coincides with the tahsil area, was created in 1968. The Mahendragarh sub-division came into being in 1958 and comprised Mahendragarh and Dadri tahsils. In 1972, the Dadri tahsil was transferred to the newly created Bhiwani district and the Mahendragarh sub-division was left with Mahendragarh tahsil area. Rewari sub-division was created in 1965 when it was a part of the Gurgaon district and now covers the Rewari and Bawal tahsils.

In 1978, the strength of sub-division and tahsil officers was as follows :

Sub-division	Tahsil	Officers	Strength		
Narnaul	Narnaul	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1		
		Tahsildar	1		
		Naib Tahsildar (Mahal)	1		
		Naib Tahsildar (Accounts)	1		
		Naib Tahsildar Agrarian (for whole district)	1		
		Naib Tahsildar (Elections) (for whole district)	1		
		Mahendra- garh	Mahendragarh	Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1
				Tahsildar	1
Naib Tahsildar	1				
Naib Tahsildar (Accounts)	1				
Rewari	Rewari			Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil)	1
		Tahsildar	1		
		Naib-Tahsildar	1		
		Naib-Tahsildar (Accounts)	1		
	Bawal	Tahsildar	1		
		Naib Tahsildar	1		

DISTRICT AUTHORITIES

Deputy Commissioner.—The general administration of the district is vested with the Deputy Commissioner. For administrative purposes, he is under the Commissioner, Hisar Division, Hisar. In other words, the state government's general authority descends through the Divisional Commissioner to the Deputy Commissioner. With the advent of democratic set-up and increased tempo of development activities, the duties and responsibilities of the Deputy Commissioner have increased enormously. He still performs the triple functions of British times, being at once the Deputy Commissioner, the District Magistrate and the Collector, but his responsibilities, particularly as Deputy Commissioner have greatly increased.

As Deputy Commissioner, he is the executive head of the district with multifarious responsibilities. There is hardly any aspect of district administration with which he is not concerned in one way or the other. He has a special role to play in regard to Panchayati Raj. In addition to keeping an eye on the working of Panchayati Raj institutions, he guides the Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, Municipal committees, Market committees and Improvement trusts and helps them to overcome difficulties and problems.

As District Magistrate, he is entrusted with the maintenance of law and order in the district. In the discharge of this responsibility, he is assisted by the Superintendent of Police. After the separation of the judiciary from the executive in 1964, he is only principal executive magistrate for the enforcement of security measures and exercises judicial powers under certain sections of preventive chapters of the Code of Criminal Procedure. Here he is assisted by 4 Executive Magistrates.

As Collector, he is the highest revenue judicial authority in the district and is responsible for collection of land holding tax and all dues recoverable as arrears of land revenue. If a party does not pay a tax in time, the tax-collecting authority sends a certificate of tax arrears to the Deputy Commissioner, who has powers to recover the amount in the same way as he does in respect of land revenue.

He supervises the maintenance of land records and agricultural statistics besides the management of government lands and estates. He is also entrusted with the implementation of land reforms and distribution of *taccavi* and other loans to agriculturists. The supervision of acquisition and requisition of land and administering relief measures in case of drought, flood and other natural calamities are some of his other duties. He acts as the District Election Officer and the Registrar for registration work.

The coordination work of the Deputy Commissioner to which a brief reference has been made, forms an important part of his overall responsibilities. While coordinating the activities of various departments in the district, whenever necessary, he takes care not to interfere in their internal administration, and the procedures, methods and policies of their parent departments. He holds periodical meetings of all the district level officers with a view to reviewing the progress of work done by the several departments and coordinating and intensifying their efforts. He has to possess a clear picture of the objectives of all the departments so as to evolve an integrated approach to various developmental activities. The Deputy Commissioner has been authorised to inspect the offices of all the departments in the district and he may call for any report and other information regarding those offices and their working. He is, in short, the head of the District administration,

a coordinating officer for the various departments and a connecting link between the public and the government in so far as he executes the policies, administers the rules and regulations framed by the government from time to time and also looks after the welfare, needs and requirements of the people. In fact he has become an essential instrument in building of a welfare state.

An Additional Deputy Commissioner has been appointed to relieve the Deputy Commissioner in work relating to rural development.

Sub-Divisional Officer.—The Sub-Divisional Officer is the chief civil officer of a sub-division. In fact, he is a miniature Deputy Commissioner in his sub-division. He exercises direct control over the Tahsildars and their staff. His main duties, like those of the Deputy Commissioner, include revenue, executive and judicial work. His executive duties pertain to the maintenance of law and order, development, local bodies, motor taxation, report about passport, renewal and grant of arms licenses, sub-divisional establishment, etc. As Sub-Divisional Magistrate, he exercises judicial powers under certain sections of the preventive chapters of the Code of Criminal Procedure. An appeal from the orders of the Sub-Divisional Magistrate in such cases lies to the District and Sessions Judge.

Tahsildar/Naib Tahsildar.—The Tahsildar and Naib Tahsildar are the key-officers in the revenue administration and exercise the powers of the Assistant Collector II Grade and sub-registrars and joint sub-registrars for registration work. While deciding partition cases, the Tahsildar assumes powers of Assistant Collector I Grade.

Their main task being revenue collection and supervision, the Tahsildar and the Naib Tahsildar have to tour extensively. They are principally responsible for the maintenance of revenue records and crops statistics. In the discharge of their miscellaneous duties, they assist the development staff in their various activities in the execution of plans, construction of roads, drains, embankments, soil conservation and reclamation, pavement of streets, filling of depressions and disposing of work connected with rural reconstruction. They also help the Block Development and Panchayat Officers in enlisting the maximum co-operation of the people in rural areas in making the Panchayati Raj a success. They are assisted by Kanungos and Patwaris.

Since the actual preparation of village records and revenue statistics rests with the Patwaris, the district is divided into 153 patwar circles, each circle being looked after by a Patwari who works under the immediate supervision of the Kanungo concerned.

The Lambardar (a non-official) is quite an important functionary in the administration. He collects and deposits the land holdings tax. These

deposits were previously made in the government treasury under the charge of the tahsil officers. The deposits are now made in the branches of the State Bank of India. In addition to his duties of collection of land holdings tax, he keeps an eye on law and order in his area and any breach or adverse circumstances is reported by him to the nearest police station and to the Deputy Commissioner's agency. He is assisted in his work by the village chowkidar.

General Arrangement for Disposal of Business

In addition to sub-division, tahsil and block staff, the Deputy Commissioner is assisted by the General Assistant and the Additional General Assistant. Assistant Commissioner /Extra Assistant Commissioners are also sometimes temporarily appointed in the district with varying degrees of powers. These officers relieve the Deputy Commissioner of the detailed and routine activities of his office and thus enable him to concentrate upon the general managerial duties of co-ordination, direction, and control in all spheres of the district administrative functions. G.A. is responsible for work relating to establishment, revenue and defence, etc. whereas the Additional General Assistant looks after the work relating to Panchayats, Panchayat Samitis, Five-Year Plans and local development.

Various district committees have been constituted in the district. These committees help to redress grievances of the people; to review the progress of agricultural development; to work out the ways and means to improve health and sanitation conditions, to take suitable steps for the welfare of ex-servicemen and their dependents; to work out integrated development of towns and watch the progress of revenue collection and disposal of surplus land.

Development Organisation

To administer schemes of development, the district has been divided into 9 blocks. The block was previously under the charge of a Block Development Officer but with the merger of the Panchayat Department with the Development Department in 1959, the Block Development Officer has been redesignated as the Block Development and Panchayat Officer and has been vested with powers of Panchayat Officer under the Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952. With the introduction of Panchayati Raj in 1961, the development of the block is looked after by an elected body known as the Panchayat Samiti. He functions under the administrative control of the Panchayat Samiti and also functions as its *ex-officio* Executive Officer.

Each block has been provided with Extension Officers from the Development, Industries, Agriculture, Cooperative and Panchayat Departments and they function under the control of the Block Development and Panchayat Officer. This procedure helps in the co-ordination of several development activities in the block.

For the implementation of programmes relating to the uplift of rural women in the block, the Block Development and Panchayat Officer is assisted by Mukhya Sewikas and Gram Sewikas who are under the administrative control of the Lady Circle Supervisor, Narnaul¹. The various programmes undertaken by them include kitchen gardens, arts and crafts centres, *Balwadis*, home decoration, poultry farming, etc.

Panchayats have been constituted at the village level to look after the development works.

Police

The police administration in the district is under the Superintendent of Police, who, next to the Deputy Commissioner is responsible for maintenance of law and order².

Judiciary

The administration of civil and criminal justice in the district is headed by the District and Sessions Judge, Bhiwani³ who is assisted by one Additional District and Sessions Judge, Narnaul. The civil and criminal justice is administered by the Senior Sub-Judge-cum-Chief Judicial Magistrate, Narnaul. He is assisted by 4 Sub-Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrates, one each at Narnaul and Mahendragarh and two at Rewari.⁴

District Attorney

Before the appointment of District Attorney in 1961, the civil and criminal business on behalf of the government was done by Public Prosecutor /Government Advocate respectively. Now the District Attorney, Narnaul conducts these cases. He is assisted by 6 Assistant District Attorneys, three posted at Narnaul, one at Rewari and two at Mahendragarh. They are not allowed to engage in private practice.

Oath Commissioner

There are 20 Oath Commissioners, out of which 12 are functioning at Narnaul, 3 at Mahendragarh and 5 at Rewari. They charge Re 1 as attestation fee for each affidavit attested.

Notary Public

There is one Notary Public in the district. The main functions of the Notary Public are preparation and attestation of affidavits, administration of oath, etc. The fee for an attestation of affidavit is Rs. 2.50 and for certifying or authenticating a document as original is Rs. 5.

1. The Lady Circle Supervisor functions under the overall control of the Director, Women Programme, Development Department, Haryana, Chandigarh.

2. For more details about the functioning of the police, the chapter on 'Law and Order and Justice' may be seen.

3. Consequent upon the creation of a separate Sessions Division for Mahendragarh district, a District and Sessions Judge has been appointed for the district with effect from March 25, 1983.

4. For details about judiciary, see chapter on 'Law and Order and Justice'.

CHAPTER XI

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION

FISCAL HISTORY

The area included in the present Mahendragarh district remained under different regimes; Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils under the Princely State of Patiala, Bawal tahsil under Princely State of Nabha and Rewari tahsil under the British. These have, as such, different fiscal history.

Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils were part of Mahendragarh Nizamat of erstwhile Princely State of Patiala. Formerly it was a portion of old Mughal *sarkar* of Narnaul, with Kanaud (later named as Mahendragarh) as its headquarters. Later during the time of Nawab Nijabat Ali Khan, the system of assessment and revenue collection was very much the same as was in vogue in the Mughal times. Collections were generally made in cash which represented the value of one-third, two fifth or one half of the total produce based generally as *kankut* or annual appraisements. Villages that did not accept the *kankut* were subjected to *batali* system. Rich lands always paid the higher rate of *batali*. Owners and tenants paid alike at the same rates and the right of ownership of the land was practically not recognised. The appraisement was done by Kanungos and Chaudhris who were the practical revenue collectors.

A system of periodical cash assessment was introduced as early as A.D. 1819 in Nawab Faiz Muhammad Khan's time. An engagement was taken for each village for a term of 3 to 4 years. Village headmen were promised extra grants in the shape of *nankar* and thus made the tool of inflating the demand, and where they failed, settlement was made with outsiders who were either influential Chaudhris or powerful tahsil officials. The proprietors could not undertake the lease upon themselves and proprietary rights passed on to powerful farmers. Nawab Abdur Rehman Khan tried to give more regular form but could not complete the work. High as the assessments of the Nawabs were, these could not be recovered in full and they contended with what they could get. The assessment and average recoveries are shown below :—

Tahsil	Assessment	Average recovered
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
Mahendragarh	1,53,242	1,34,043
Narnaul	2,15,000	1,80,248
	3,68,242	3,14,291

After annexation of the area by the British in 1857-58, a summary settlement was made in a cursory way by the British (Dwyer and Cambell) and their guide was the average of recoveries that had preceded. They put the *jama* as Rs. 1,90,823 for Narnaul tahsil and Rs. 1,06,523 for Mahendragarh tahsil. The Narnaul *jama* lasted for one year because thereafter the tahsil was transferred to Patiala State and Mahendragarh *jama* continued up to 1859-60 with slight alterations, when that tahsil was also given to Patiala State.

The system of cash assessment was maintained by Patiala State. The revenue was annually announced by local Nazims up to 1860-61 after which the district shared the policy of triennial and decennial summary settlement along with the whole State.

The assessment of Narnaul tahsil in first year of Patiala rule was fixed very low but in 1859-60, it was doubled and that of Mahendragarh tahsil was increased from British assessment of Rs. 1,06,523 to Rs. 1,85,839.

After 1860-61, the two triennial settlements were conducted from 1861-62 to 1863-64 by Jagdish Singh, and from 1864-65 to 1867-68 by Fateh Singh. Next came the 10-year settlement which lasted up to Kharif *samvat* 1936 (A.D. 1878). These were rough and ready proceedings and were based on paying capacity of the estate and extent of well irrigation. The average of past collection was not necessarily followed. The standard of assessment depended on local Nazim who was generally imbued with the idea of showing his merits by increasing the income of the State.

The settlement operations under Ali Ahmad were started in 1871 on Punjab pattern. The settlement operations lasted up to 1878 but the records were left incomplete probably on account of great famine of 1877.

The assessments of Ali Ahmad were based on revenue rates probably arrived at by produce estimates and 10 years price average (including that of famine years which enormously increased the average prices). The *batai* rent rates were fixed $\frac{1}{2}$ for *chahi*, $\frac{1}{3}$ for *barani* and States' share was $\frac{2}{3}$ of net assets and cesses equal to 13 per cent were added. The *jama* announced was Rs. 1,88,764 for Mahendragarh tahsil and Rs. 3,03,915 for Narnaul tahsil. The assessment announced in 1881 told heavily upon the people since they had hardly recovered from the famine of 1877. A large number of proprietors absconded and their holdings were leased at reduced rates and arrears went on accumulating on original deserters. Later in 1890 the situation was reviewed and the assessment was reduced and arrears remitted. The assessment was reduced by Rs. 25,670 in Mahendragarh tahsil and Rs. 27,616 in Narnaul tahsil and many deserters came back and Nazim (Mir Niaz Ali) did his best

to resettle them. Even this reduced demand was 48 per cent higher than that fixed by the British in 1857-58.¹

A regular assessment of the Nizamat was commenced in 1901 along with the rest of the State and completed in 1905. It was introduced with effect from kharif, 1905 and was sanctioned for 30 years. The new demand sanctioned for Mahendragarh tahsil was Rs. 1,56,513 and for Narnaul tahsil Rs. 2,58,120 and it was less by Rs. 6,581 and Rs. 18,179 respectively over the previous demand.

The details regarding the fixed land revenue of Mahendragarh nizamat during 1900-01 to 1903-04 are as follows :—

Year	Demand	Collection	Percentage on demand	Collection during current year on account of previous year	Total collection Rs.
1900-01	3,73,638	3,024	.8	..	3,024
1901-02	3,78,326	3,77,295	99.7	12	3,77,307
1902-03	3,72,522	2,92,587	78.5	91	2,92,678
1903-04	3,72,147	3,59,465	96.5	5,071	3,64,536

In Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils, the assessment imposed in 1905 was in force when it was merged in Patiala and East Punjab States Union (Pepsu). The pitch of assessment was reduced so as to bring it at par with the adjoining territory of Punjab.

Bawal tahsil formerly Bawal Nizamat was a part of the erstwhile Princely State of Nabha. It then comprised parganas of Bawal, Kanti and Kanina. The system of levying the revenue in kind was in force in whole of the state up to 1860, when a cash assessment was introduced. The first assessment of Bawal Nizamat was commenced in 1888 and completed in 1892 and enforced in 1893. It was conducted on Punjab pattern and the land was measured and record of rights were prepared. The land revenue demand which was Rs. 1,95,273, was collected twice a year, at the time of kharif and rabi. Besides, *siwai* (extra collection) at the rate of 18.25 per cent of the total land revenue was also collected. During 1900-01, the demand and the collection of Bawal Nizamat were Rs. 1,88,184 and Rs. 1,81,695 respectively. The collection during the current year on account of previous year was Rs. 1,807.

1. Khan Chand, *Report on the Assessment of the Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils of the Narnaul District, Patiala State, 1905*, Lahore, PP. 12—16.

Rewari tahsil comprises two old-time parganas of Rewari and Shahjhanpur and 15 villages transferred in 1877 from Nuh and Gurgaon tahsils. Pargana Rewari with the exception of 58 *istamrar* villages was summarily settled by W. Fraser in 1808-1809. The settlements were made with the highest bidders and the result was over-assessment. The severity of the demand was soon realised and the revision of the assessment of the poorest villages was begun in 1832 by Bacon, carried out by Gubbins in 1836 and completed by Lawrence in 1838. This is the First Regular Settlement and it was based on the assumption that the state was entitled to four fifths of the rent.

The parganas of Shahjhanpur resumed in 1824, was summarily settled by Cavendish for 14 years and later in 1838, Lawrence raised the assessment.

In 1849 Routh settled 58 *istamrar* villages and reduction had to be made in individual villages where assessment was found to be heavy.

The Second Regular Settlement of the whole tahsil was carried between 1872 and 1877 by Channing. The demand was calculated on half net assets basis. The imposition of the demand was followed by series of bad years. The severity of the demand coupled with unwillingness on the part of the government to allow suspensions freely caused much distress and led to revision of assessment by Wilson in 1882. His proposals resulted in the reduction of the land revenue.

The assessment was raised at the settlement of 1903-1907 by 3 per cent over the previous assessment. This assessment was heavy but was very well distributed over villages. The government was very sympathetic with the Zamindars as evidence by large suspensions and liberal distribution of *taccavi* even in ordinary years. It is for this reason that inspite of bad years including two famines, the settlement continued up to 1940.

The tahsil was re-settled in 1942 and the reduction in demand over the previous assessment was striking. It was justified, by the facts that the standard had been reduced by half, the old assessment was unusually full, remissions were heavy and the tahsil had deteriorated. The tahsil was divided into 4 assessment circles, namely *Chahat Khari*, *Chahat Mitha*, *Pahar* and *Sahibi* and each of the assessment circle was further sub-divided according to the quality of the soil and facilities for irrigation.

The following statement shows the assessment circles, kinds of soil and the results of the revision of fixed land revenue assessment of Rewari

tahsil during 1938—43¹ :—

Assessment circle	Soil	Rate per acre			Old demand	New demand	Decrease percent
1	2	3			4	5	6
		Rs.	A.	P.	Rs.	Rs.	
<i>Chahat</i>	<i>Chahi</i>	1	6	0	1,26,052	79,000	37
	<i>Ala-barani</i>	0	14	0			
<i>Khari</i>	<i>Bhud</i>	0	6	0			
<i>Chahat</i>	<i>Chahi</i>	1	12	0	38,085	25,000	34
	<i>Ala-barani</i>	1	2	0			
<i>Mitha</i>	<i>Bhud</i>	0	4	6			
<i>Pahar</i>	<i>Chahi</i>	1	4	0	32,473	19,300	41
	<i>Ala-barani</i>	0	12	0			
	<i>Bhud</i>	0	6	0			
<i>Sahibi</i>	<i>Chahi</i>	1	8	0	77,934	39,500	49
	<i>Dahri</i>	1	2	0			
	<i>Ala-barani</i>	0	12	0			
	<i>Bhud</i>	0	6	0			
Total :					2,74,544	1,62,800	41

The settlement was sanctioned for 40 years. Protective leases of wells were provided for 30 years in *Sahibi* circle and for 40 years in other circles.

The fixed land revenue of Rewari tahsil during 1901 to 1944-45 was as follows :—

Year	Demand	Collection	Collection during the current year on account of previous year
1	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	4
Average 1900-01 to 1904-05	2,56,480	2,31,840	18,043
Average 1905-06 to 1909-10	2,56,271	1,94,842	31,890
Average 1910-11 to 1914-15	2,55,950	2,49,535	8,195

1. Akhtar Hussain : *Final Settlement of Gurgaon District, 1938-43*, pp. 18—24.

1	2	3	4
Average 1915-16 to 1919-20	2,57,889	2,18,323	12,793
1920-21	2,58,165	1,34,538	813
1921-22	2,58,650	2,29,589	50,549
1922-23	2,59,068	2,56,792	97,074
1923-24	2,59,478	2,41,382	24,516
1924-25	2,59,869	2,55,490	30,381
1925-26	2,55,261	2,24,214	1,244
1926-27	2,55,388	2,19,852	13,035
1927-28	2,54,614	2,11,261	2,347
1928-29	2,54,101	94,778	389
1929-30	2,54,171	1,37,383	2,323
1930-31	2,54,532	84,139	412
1931-32	2,54,587	1,83,322	952
1932-33	2,54,506	2,12,639	10,943
1933-34	2,54,554	1,45,206	2,746
1934-35	2,54,228	1,83,696	1,736
1935-36	2,54,468	1,40,061	2,524
1936-37	2,54,475	2,12,683	18,187
1937-38	2,54,482	1,04,418	..
1938-39	2,54,621	73,677	475
1939-40	2,59,757	84,381	2,488
1940-41	2,59,807	1,91,073	10,428
1941-42	2,59,462	98,141	1,375
1942-43	1,49,453	1,46,055	5,137
1943-44	1,49,897	1,47,837	10,108
1944-45	1,49,131	1,48,592	2,114

Thus the fiscal history of the district presents varied picture and the pitch of assessment was much high in areas under princely regimes. When these areas were transferred to Pepsu and Punjab, the pitch was reduced so as to bring it at par with Punjab areas.

After Independence, the land revenue fixed at the time of previous settlements lost all relevance to the increased income arising from the land. The government expenditure had also vastly increased, particularly since Independence, on account of the expansion of government activity and development. To meet this ever-growing demand, the government tapped different sources of revenue. As regards land revenue, in addition to the assessed demand of land revenue of the previous settlement, special assessment, surcharge, special charge and additional surcharge were levied in accordance with the Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954, the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charges) Act, 1958 and the Haryana Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Act, 1969. All these and various other enactments proved inadequate in the light of changed circumstances and ultimately to put the record straight, the government passed the Haryana Land Holdings Tax Act, 1973. A brief description of these acts is given below :—

It was observed that some people put the land to non-agricultural uses without paying revenue to the government. The Punjab Land Revenue (Special Assessment) Act, 1955 was passed, which provided for special assessment of land put to use for non-agricultural purposes such as brick-kiln, factories, houses, landing grounds and other similar purposes. The enforcement of special assessment was suspended from Kharif, 1964. The Punjab Land Revenue (Surcharge) Act, 1954, had been enacted for the levy of a surcharge from rabi harvest of the agricultural year 1953-54. Under the Act, every land owner who paid revenue in excess of ten rupees was liable to pay a surcharge thereon to the extent of one quarter of land revenue if the amount payable by him as land revenue did not exceed 30 rupees, and two-fifth of the land revenue if it exceeded 30 rupees. In addition, the government had to pass the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Charges) Act, 1958 to meet the heavy financial obligation created by various development schemes. Hence, a special charge was levied from the rabi harvest of agricultural year 1957-58. The rates of special charge was based on the income tax pattern with the different slabs for different categories of land owners.

A cess on commercial crops, namely, cotton, sugarcane and chillies at the rate of Rs. 4 per acre in the case of land which was irrigated by canal water and Rs. 2 per acre in the case of other land, had been levied from Kharif 1963 under the Punjab Commercial Crops Cess Act, 1963. Areas under commercial crops, sown solely for domestic use up to one *kanal* in the case of chillies and 2 *kanals* in the case of sugarcane or cotton were exempt from this levy.

An additional surcharge on land revenue at the rate of 50 per cent was levied for the development of Kurukshetra University/town vide the Haryana Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge), Ordinance No. 2 of 1967. Initially,

this had been levied for one year, i.e. for kharif 1967 and rabi 1968, but it was extended for kharif and rabi harvests of the agricultural year 1968-69 according to the Haryana Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Act, 1969. The levy of surcharge was further extended up to 1973-74 by the Haryana Land Revenue (Additional Surcharge) Amendment Act, 1970, but it could only be collected up to 1972-73 on account of the enforcement of the Haryana Land Holdings Tax Act, 1973.

Haryana Land Holdings Tax Act.—The Haryana Land Holdings Tax Act, 1973, came into force on June 16, 1973.

The government took the view that the collection of surcharges, special charges, cess on commercial crops and additional surcharge had become cumbersome not only for the revenue agency but also for the cultivators. To meet the situation the Haryana Land Holdings Tax Act, 1973, consolidated the above 4 levies into a single tax known as the land holdings tax. However, the land holdings tax shall not be levied and charged on land which is liable to special assessment under section 59 of the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, or the Punjab Land Revenue (Special Assessment) Act, 1955. Further, during the period the above tax is levied and charged, the land shall not be liable to payment of land revenue by way of general assessment under the Punjab Land Revenue Act, 1887, or the payment of local rate under the Punjab Panchayat Samitis and Zila Parishads, Act, 1961. The Act brings out a concept of holdings on the basis of a family rather than the individual as a unit for the purpose of imposition of tax and provides for graded taxation on the basis of holding size. The present rates of land tax are as under¹ :—

Class of land (specified in Schedule I) comprising the land holding	Rate of tax
I	(a) Seventy paise per 0.05 hectare for the first one hectare; (b) One rupee per 0.05 hectare for the next four hectares; and (c) One rupee and thirty-five paise per 0.05 hectare for the remaining land.
II	(a) Sixty paise per 0.05 hectare for the first one hectare; (b) Ninety paise per 0.05 hectare for the next four hectares; and

1. The land-owners of land holdings measuring 2.5 hectares or less were exempted from the payment of the tax with effect from November, 15, 1978. Later a surcharge at the rate of 10 per cent on holdings exceeding 4.8 hectares but not exceeding 6 hectares and 15 per cent on holdings exceeding 6 hectares was levied with effect from June 16, 1979.

1

2

- (c) One rupee and twenty paise for per 0.05 hectare for the remaining land.
- III (a) Forty paise per 0.05 hectare for the first one hectare;
(b) Fifty paise per 0.05 hectare for the next four hectares; and
(c) Sixty paise per 0.05 hectare for the remaining land.
- IV (a) Twenty-five paise per 0.05 hectare for the first one hectare;
(b) Forty paise per 0.05 hectare for the next four hectares; and
(c) Fifty paise per 0.05 hectare for the remaining land.
- V (a) Ten paise per 0.05 hectare for the first one hectare;
(b) Fifteen paise per 0.05 hectare for the next four hectares; and
(c) Twenty paise per 0.05 hectare for the remaining land.

The tahsilwise classification of lands in different assessment circles is given below :—

Tahsil	Assessment Circle	Kinds of Soil included in				
		Class I	Class II	Class III	Class IV	Class V
Rewari	1. Chahat Khari	Nehri (Perennial)	Chahi and Nehri (Non-perennial)	Dehri	Other Barani	Bhud, Banjar, Kallar, Thur and Sem
	2. Chahat Mitha	Do	Chahi Nehri (Non-perennial) and Abi	Do	Do	Do
	3. Pahar	Nehri (Perennial)	Chahi, Nehri (Non-perennial) and Abi	Dehri	Other Barani	Bhud, Banjar, Kallar, Thur and Sem
	4. Sahibi	Do	Do	Dehri (Other Barani)	..	Do
Narnaul	All tahsil	..	Chahi	..	Barani	Do
Mahendragarh	1. Tahsil Khas	..	Chahi	..	Barani	Do
	2. Pasi Koh	Chahi	Do	Do
	3. Pargana Kanana	..	Chahi	Barani	..	Do
Bawal	1. Chak Khari	..	Chahi	Barani	—	Banjar
	2. Chak Siri	..	Do	Do	—	Do
	3. Chak Sahibi	..	Do	Do	—	Do
	4. Chak Pahar	..	Do	Do	—	Do

The details of the income from land holdings tax from 1974-75 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Demand		Total	Recovery
	Previous	Current		
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1974-75	5,47,185	21,41,944	26,89,129	26,75,771
1975-76	13,358	21,76,414	21,89,772	21,81,748
1976-77	8,024	21,69,091	21,77,115	21,64,354
1977-78	12,197	21,62,035	21,74,232	8,97,225

SPECIAL CESSES AND COLLECTION OF LAND REVENUE

The cesses or *abwabs* or *siwai* levied in Mahendragarh Nizamat were road cess, school cess, hospital cess and postal cess at the rate of 1 per cent each and Patwar Cess at the rate of 3.12 per cent of the *mal* (pure revenue, i.e. 4/5 of the total revenue). The total amount on account of these cesses was Rs. 26,659. Besides extra cesses were also levied and their details as given in *Phulkian States Gazetteer, (Patiala, Jind and Nabha), 1904¹* are given below :—

Sar-i-deh.—A cess dating from the Nawab of Jhajjar's time, which was levied at the rate of Re. 1 to Rs. 2 per annum per village as a royalty.

Itdaq.—An old cess, the origin of which is not clearly ascertainable beyond the fact that an *Itdaq-Navis* (Miscellaneous Muharrir or Despatcher) and a *chaprasi* used to draw their pay from this fund before the Patiala regime.

Begar.—In old times all the villagers were required to supply a certain number of coolies in turn to the officer in charge of the district. This custom was discontinued long ago and was replaced by a cash cess amounting to between 1 and 2 per cent of the revenue.

Lambardari.—This cess had been levied at the rate of Rs. 4 per cent, on the *mal* in tahsil Mahendragarh and at Rs. 3 per cent in tahsil Narnaul since the *Ilaga* came into the possession of the Patiala chief.

Sarrafi.—A cess at the rate of *annas* 2 per hundred rupees was levied to remunerate the money-testers kept at the treasuries of Mahendragarh and Narnaul at an annual expenditure of Rs. 150.

Maskirat.—This cess was apparently introduced by the Patiala author-

1. *Ibid*, p. 153-154.

ities in Sambat 1937 (A.D. 1880) in lieu of leasing the vend of liquors and intoxicating drugs.

Nankar.—A cess under the head *nankar* was levied in lump sum from a few villages in tahsil Narnaul in addition to their revenue, and was paid to the kanungo, chaudhris and a few lambardars as a *sufed-poshi* grant after deducting 1/10th share, which went to the State Treasury.

Mandir Hari Das.—A cess at the rate of Re. 1 to Rs. 2 per annum was levied in tahsil Narnaul for the maintenance of the Mandir Hari Das at Narnaul. The cess had been realized from ancient times.

Gaushala.—A cess at 8 *annas* per cent was recovered for the protection of cows, but the money was not credited to the treasury.

Bhet Gurdwara.—An annual cess of Re. 1 per estate was levied from the Narnaul villages in the name of one Gopi Nath, Brahman of Jhajjar in the Nawab's times, but soon after the land passed into the hands of the Patiala authorities it was converted into a Gurdwara cess. It enjoyed a *jagir* of Rs. 1,000, and the cess levied was not spent on the maintenance of the temple, but credited into the treasury.

The amount of the cesses were :	Rs.
<i>Sar-i-Deh</i>	513
<i>Itlaq</i>	870
<i>Begar</i>	3,619
<i>Lambardari</i>	12,219
<i>Sarrafi</i>	455
<i>Maskirat</i>	506
<i>Nankar</i>	2,227
<i>Mandir Hari Dass</i>	278
<i>Bhet Gurdwara</i>	306
Total :	20,993

During the Settlement of 1901-05, all above cesses were abolished and 5 per cent allowance of the total demand was considered enough to cover these allowances. A further allowance of 1 per cent was made out of the total demand to make cash *inams* to certain influential people who were earlier enjoying *nankar* or *inams* and those who could not be adjusted as Zaildars.

Thus the total allowance of 6 per cent of the total demand was sanctioned. The deduction from the new demand was Rs. 290 as life time cash *Inam*,¹ and Rs. 24,877 as 6 per cent allowance.

The *panchai* and *nankar* enjoyed by Lambardars were adjusted in 5 per cent allowance on demand. Mandir Hari Dass cess was abolished and cash *Muafi* was granted to the Mandir from Narnaul tahsil. In addition, *nazar*, a type of cess, at the rate of Rs. 10 in Mahendragarh tahsil and Rs. 8 in Narnaul tahsil per annum for each estate continued to be charged.

In Bawal tahsil, *Siwai* at the rate of 18.25 per cent of the revenue on account of roads, schools, hospitals, post offices, *nazar*, chowkidars, lambardari and Patwari was charged.

In Rewari tahsil, the cesses were Lambardari, Patwari, roads, school, local rate and postal and these amounted to 19.83 per cent of the land revenue.

The Lambardars were mainly responsible for revenue collection and they were paid 5 per cent in Rewari and Bawal, 4 per cent in Mahendragarh tahsil and 3 per cent (besides *nankar* in few villages) in Narnaul tahsil.

In Rewari tahsil, the Headmen or lambardars were appointed by the British to collect land revenue. A cess of 5 per cent of the land revenue was levied for their emoluments. The office of Headmen became hereditary.

The office of Chief Headman or Ala Lambardar was instituted in 1878. The Chief Headman was appointed only in villages where there were three or more Headmen. He was elected by the votes of the proprietary body subject to the sanction of the Deputy Commissioner. The post of Ala lambardar existed upto 1909.

After 1909, a system of Inamdars or Safedposhes was introduced in place of Ala lambardars. The total emoluments of Inamdars were fixed to a quarter per cent of the land revenue. The duties of Inamdars were the same as those of Zaildars.

During the Second Regular Settlement the whole area of Gurgaon District was divided into *Zails*. Consequently, the zaildari system was introduced for the collection of land revenue. During the settlement of 1938-43, Rewari tahsil was divided into 14 *zails* and there were 14 *zaildars*. The number of Inamdars or safedposh was 12.

An extract from the *Phulkian States Gazetteer (Patiala, Jind and Nabha)*,

1. The life time *nankar* of Chaudhris and Kanungos in Narnaul tahsil was treated as life time cash *Inam* and was to be treated as allowance from new demand.

1904, shows the details of land revenue collection in the Princely State of Patiala¹ :—

“There is not yet Zaildari system in the state, but there are a large number of *lambardars*. They are responsible for the collection of the land revenue and are also bound to assist in suppressing and investigating crime and giving information to the police. In point of fact the revenue collection till recently was done by the *patwaris* who accompanied the *lambardar* to the *tahsil* when taking the money, but now *lambardars* are responsible for the revenue. Some *lambardars* are really large landowners, while some have sold or mortgaged their properties. Now they are generally paid Rs. 5 per cent on the revenue they collect; in some parts only Rs. 3 or Rs. 4 per cent.”

In the Bawal area, the *zaildars* were supervised by a special official. The office of *zaildar* was not hereditary and was purely honorary. The appointments were made on considerations of personal ability, local influence and service to the State. The duties of *zaildars* were to assist the state officials in the prevention and detection of crime; to convey the orders of the government to the residents in their respective *zails*; to protect public buildings and boundary pillars and gave notice when they needed repair; to look after indigent widows and orphans and to act as local commissioners in petty cases concerning lands, wells, etc.

The *zaildars* and *Inamdars* were selected as useful men to the government. Till 1948, *Zaildars* and *Inamdars* continued to supervise and assist in the collection of land revenue. All the offices of *Inamdars* and *Zaildars* were abolished by the Notification of March 11, 1948 and Governor of Punjab's order of October, 17, 1952 respectively. These offices of *Inamdars* and *Zaildars* were revived w.e.f. November 28, 1963 under the Land Revenue (IInd Amendment) rules, 1964 (Punjab Government (Revenue Department) Notification of January 23, 1964) and their remuneration was fixed at the rate of Rs. 300 and Rs. 200 per annum, respectively. But again w.e.f. August 1, 1964, all offices of *zaildars* and *Inamdars* throughout the state of Punjab were abolished. Since then *Lambardars* have been responsible for the revenue collection. Prior to the enforcement of the Land Holdings Tax Act, 1973, the *Lambardar* was paid *pachotra* at the rate of 5 per cent of the land revenue. Since various levies were consolidated into land holdings tax, the *lambardars'* allowance was fixed at 3 per cent of the new tax.²

1. p. 166.

2. It was raised to 5 per cent of the land holdings tax in 1980-81.

REVENUE ADMINISTRATION AND LAND RECORDS

The unit of revenue administration is an estate which is usually identical with a village. Each of these is separately assessed and has a separate record of rights and register of fiscal and agricultural statistics. All its proprietors are by law jointly responsible for the payment of land tax, and in their dealings with the government they are represented by one or more Lambardars. Estates are grouped into *patwar* circles each of which is under the charge of a Patwari. About 13 to 19 of these circles are looked after by a Kanungo whose duty is to supervise the work of Patwaris.

The district has been sub-divided into tahsils, kanungo circles, Patwar circles and revenue estates as follows:—

Tahsil	Number and names of Kanungo circles		Number of patwar circles in each kanungo circle	Number of revenue estates in each kanungo circle
	No.	Name of kanungo circle		
Narnaul	1.	Narnaul	17	69
	2.	Nangal Chaudhry	16	72
	3.	Ateli	16	81
	Total :		49	222
Mahendragarh	1.	Mahendragarh	14	48
	2.	Pali	13	44
	3.	Kanina	14	39
	Total :		41	131
Rewari	1.	Rewari	16	94
	2.	Jatusana	19	87
	3.	Khori	16	102
	Total :		51	283
Bawal	1.	Bawal	12	81
	Total :		12	81

The following staff in the tahsils attend to revenue work :—

Tahsil	Number of Tahsildars	Number of Naib- Tahsildars	Number of Office Kanungos	Number of Kanungos	Number of Patwaris	Number of Asstt. Patwaris
Narnaul	1	2	1	3	49	1
Mahendragarh	1	2	1	3	41	1
Rewari	1	2	1	3	51	—
Bawal	1	1	—	1	12	—
Total :	4	7	3	10	153	2

The head of the revenue administration in the district is, of course, the Collector (Deputy Commissioner). He is a steward of the state and is bound to preserve and prevent from encroachment every private right in the soil which has been created or confirmed by the state. The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) is Assistant Collector of the 1st Grade but as a measure of decentralisation the powers of Collector have been delegated to him under certain Acts in his jurisdiction. The Tahsildar is an important functionary and is in charge of the tahsil for revenue work and revenue judicial work. He has to control the patwar and kanungo agencies; he has to collect revenue punctually.

The Patwari is an inheritance from the village system of old days. He is appointed for a circle consisting of one or more villages. Besides the proper maintenance of revenue record, the Patwari is required to report to the Tahsildar any calamity affecting land, crops, cattle or the agricultural classes, and to bring to his notice the death of revenue assignees and pensioners. When revenue collections are in progress, he must furnish all information that may be required to facilitate the collections. He himself is not permitted to take any part in the collection of the revenue except when any Lambardar refuses to accept the *dhal bachh* (total demand from each land-owner), and no immediate alternative arrangement can be made.

The Patwari is under the immediate supervision of a Kanungo who is responsible for the conduct and work of Patwaris.

At district headquarters, there is a District or Sadar Kanungo assisted by a Naib Sadar Kanungo. He is the keeper of all records received from Kanungos and Patwaris. With the help of his assistants, he maintains copies of the prescribed statistical registers for each assessment circle, tahsil and the whole district.

LAND REFORMS

In Bawal tahsil 75 per cent of the land was cultivated by proprietors, but in Rewari, Mahendragarh and Narnaul tahsils about 50 per cent of the land was cultivated by tenants. Very few of them had occupancy rights whereas the rest cultivated at the will of owners. After Independence, the government adopted the policy of 'land to the tillers'. To give effect to this policy, the government enacted the following legislations :

Punjab Acts

1. The East Punjab Utilization of Lands Act, 1949
2. The Punjab Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1952
3. The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952
4. The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953
5. The Punjab Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1955

Pepsu Acts

1. The Pepsu Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1954
2. The Pepsu Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1954
3. The Pepsu Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1955
4. The Pepsu Bhoodan Yagna Act, 1955

Two more Acts, the Punjab Resumption of Jagirs Act, 1957 and Punjab Village Common Lands (Regulation) Act, 1961 were enacted after the merger of PEPSU with Punjab.

Under the East Punjab Utilisation of Lands Act, 1949, the government enforced the utilisation of every inch of available cultivable land for growing more food and other essential goods. A notice to take over the land is served on every land-owner who allows his land to remain uncultivated for 6 or more consecutive harvests and the land thus taken over is leased out to others for a term ranging from 7 to 20 years, priority being given to Harijans. Under the provisions of this Act, however, no land was taken over in this district.

Under the Punjab Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari Rights Act, 1952, and the PEPSU Abolition of Ala Malikiyat and Talukdari

Rights Act, 1954, all rights, title and interest of an *ala malik* in the land held under him by an *adna malik* were extinguished and the *adna malik* was required to pay compensation to become the complete owner.

The Punjab Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1952, and the PEPSU Occupancy Tenants (Vesting of Proprietary Rights) Act, 1954, declared all the occupancy tenants as the owners of the land. They had to pay reasonable compensation for the land held by them to the landlords.

The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, as amended in 1955, not only reduced the acreage which could be reserved by landlords but also specifically prohibited the ejection of tenants from the reserved land unless he was settled on surplus or other land. The tenant was liable to be ejected in case of default in payment of rent which could not be enhanced by the landlord.

The main objects of the Act were to give security to the tenants on the land declared surplus and to fix a ceiling on the total holdings of a land-owner. The Act further extended an opportunity to tenants to become owners. A tenant of 4 years' standing acquired a right of pre-emption at sales or foreclosures; but more important than that, tenants of 6 years' standing were allowed to buy the un-reserved area from their landlords at three quarters of the ten-year average of price of similar land. The payment of compensation, however, could be made by the tenant, either in lump sum or in six monthly instalments not exceeding ten.

The PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Land Act, 1955, had also been enacted with similar objective of providing security to tenants, their settlement on the land declared surplus, fixing of a ceiling on the total holding of a land-owner, etc. The Act contained certain distinguishing features which are discussed below :—

(a) Under the PEPSU Act, the permissible area was 30 standard acres in the case of local owners and 40 standard acres in the case of displaced persons from Pakistan, while under the Punjab Act these figures were 30 and 50 standard acres respectively.

(b) Under the PEPSU Act, surplus land was acquired by the government on payment of compensation whereas under the Punjab Act, it was declared surplus.

The area declared surplus under the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953 and the PEPSU Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1955, in

December, 1972 was as under :—

	(Area in hectares)	
	Punjab Act, 1953	Pepsu Act, 1955
1. Area declared surplus	8,624	271
2. Net area available for allotment	3,829	271
3. Area utilised	2,983	217
4. Area remained un-utilised	846	54
5. Number of tenants to be re-settled	963	46
6. Tenants re-settled	963	46
7. Tenants still to be re-settled	—	—

The Punjab and Pepsu Bhoodan Yagna Acts of 1955, provide statutory recognition to the Bhoodan Movement, the object of which is to receive donations of land and distribute it among landless persons who are capable of cultivating personally. No land was, however, received in donation under these Acts.

As a result of these enactments, feudal practices like *jagirdari* and *biswadari* have been liquidated. Occupancy tenants have acquired proprietorship. Many tenants-at-will have availed of the opportunity afforded by law to become proprietors. At the same time, some landlords were able to circumvent the law by entering into *benami* transactions and mutated their lands in favour of relatives and confidants so as to retain effective ownership. In addition, many landlords whose only interest in land was to realise rent, have taken to cultivation with their own hands to avoid lands passing to tenants. This has, of course, given a drive to mechanised farming and more production.

Consolidation of holdings.—Work of consolidation of holdings in the Punjab was started during the British period through co-operative consolidation societies. But the progress was slow. Soon after Independence, the necessity of consolidation of holdings was realised and the East Punjab Holdings (Consolidation and Prevention of Fragmentation) Act, 1948 was passed. The tahsilwise progress of work achieved up to March 31, 1978, is given below:—

Name of tahsil	Number of villages	Villages consolidated up to March 31, 1978	Villages consolidated under consolidation work	Villages in which the consolidation work is yet to be taken
Narnaul	222	219	—	3
Mahendragarh	131	131	—	—
Rewari	283	283	—	—
Bawal	81	81	—	—
Total :	717	714	—	3

It is evident that out of the total of 717 villages, consolidation work has been completed in 714. One village, viz. Golwa in Narnaul tahsil was denotified being hilly track. Consolidation in two villages, viz. Narnaul and Naul Ayja is yet to be taken up.

Land Ceilings.—The Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953 and the Pepsu Tenancy and Agricultural Lands Act, 1955 which contained inter alia provisions relating to ceiling on agricultural land-holdings, utilization of surplus area and security for tenants against exploitation and ejection were in force in different parts of Haryana. On consideration of the report of the Central Land Reforms Committee, a national policy was evolved in 1972 for removing economic disparities by making available additional land for equitable distribution among the landless persons and also for enlarging the scope of employment. It was felt that this national objective would be achieved by lowering the ceiling on agricultural holdings, and that with the increase in agricultural production the ceiling could be lowered without rendering the holdings uneconomic. With this end in view and also to remove certain defects which had come to notice in the course of the implementation of the two Acts, the Haryana Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972, was enacted. This Act repeals the provisions of the two earlier Acts in so far as they relate to the placing of ceiling on land-holdings and utilisation of surplus area.

The new Act provides for the assessment of permissible area in relation to a family instead of an individual, and reduces the permissible limit to 7.25 hectares of land under assured irrigation capable of growing at least two crops in a year, 10.9 hectares of land under assured irrigation capable of growing at least one crop in a year or 21.8 hectares in respect of any other land including *banjar* and land under orchards. In case the family comprises more than three minor children, an additional area at the rate of 1/5th of the permissible area of the primary unit is permitted for each additional member provided that the total does not exceed twice the permissible area of the primary unit. The head of a primary unit has also been given a right to select for each of his major sons (or widow and minor children of a pre-deceased son) area equivalent to the permissible limit of a primary unit. Further, unlike the Punjab Security of Land Tenures Act, 1953, the new Act provides for the vesting of the surplus area in the government and its utilization for settlement of tenants and other economically weaker sections of society, i.e. members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, landless agricultural labour and other.

OTHER SOURCES OF REVENUE, STATE AND CENTRAL

State Sources of Revenue

In addition to land, there are various other sources from which the state

derives its revenue. A brief description of these are given below :—

Stamp Duty .—This duty is collected under the Court Fees Act, 1870, and the Indian Stamp Act, 1899. Both the Acts were amended a number of times. The Court Fees Act was amended by the Court Fees (Haryana Amendment) Act, 1974. The Indian Stamp Act, 1899 was amended by the Haryana Act No. 7 of 1967. The Acts require the Collector (or Deputy Commissioner), District and Session Judge and all the Sub-Judges to ensure that the applications for all suits and other relevant documents are properly stamped according to schedule. The total income realised in the district from the sale of judicial and non-judicial stamps, during 1966-67 to 1977-78, is shown in the following table :

Year	Judicial (under the Court Fees Act)	Non- Judicial (under the Stamp Act)	Total
	(Rs.)	(Rs)	(Rs)
1966-67	1,94,322	2,94,515	5,88,837
1967-68	4,18,022	6,04,064	10,22,086
1968-69	2,15,705	8,37,964	10,89,670
1969-70	2,33,251	16,78,221	18,11,473
1970-71	2,53,976	15,10,894	17,64,870
1971-72	2,91,769	14,69,263	17,61,031
1972-73	3,36,298	13,94,535	17,30,833
1973-74	4,11,912	22,56,032	26,67,944
1974-75	5,00,448	20,44,801	25,45,249
1975-76	5,26,498	27,28,991	32,55,489
1976-77	5,53,536	27,12,870	32,66,407
1977-78	4,50,025	31,47,818	35,97,843

Registration Fees.—The Deputy Commissioner is the Registrar in the district. The Tahsildars and Naib-Tahsildars are Sub-Registrars and Joint Sub-Registrars, respectively.

Appeals from the orders of the Sub-Registrar are heard by the Registrar. The Inspector General of Registration, Haryana, Chandigarh,

exercises general superintendence over all the registration offices in the state and has power to make rules consistent with the Indian Registration Act, 1908.

The following statement gives the number of registered documents, value of property and the receipts from 1966-67 to 1977-78 :

Year	Registration		Aggregate Value of Property (Rs.)	Amount of Registration Fee Including Other Receipts (Rs.)
	Immovable Property (Number)	Movable Property (Number)		
1966-67	2,070	263	1,05,60,076	1,61,168
1967-68	3,637	384	1,39,50,691	1,81,920
1968-69	3,655	500	1,66,01,600	1,77,157
1969-70	4,755	829	3,16,60,019	2,77,442
1970-71	3,928	667	2,36,57,227	2,18,195
1971-72	3,416	638	2,11,80,867	2,08,521
1972-73	4,130	722	3,12,79,710	2,79,524
1973-74	5,299	646	4,59,87,049	4,93,482
1974-75	4,452	1,269	2,96,60,734	3,47,573
1975-76	3,567	1,613	3,21,74,948	3,65,800
1976-77	4,726	3,964	5,32,07,312	10,88,020
1977-78	5,714	1,067	9,94,47,645	11,31,619

Excise and Taxation.—For the implementation and administration of Excise and Taxation Acts, the district is under the charge of the District Excise and Taxation Officer, Narnaul, whose office was shifted from Mahendragarh in 1970. He functions under the administrative control of the Deputy Excise and Taxation Commissioner (Headquarters) Haryana, Chandigarh, whereas the appellate work of the district is disposed off by the Deputy Excise and Taxation Commissioner (Appeals), Rohtak. However, the overall charge lies with the Excise and Taxation Commissioner, Haryana, Chandigarh.

The District Excise and Taxation Officer is assisted by two Additional Excise and Taxation Officers and ten Assistant Excise and Taxation Officers. There are sales tax check barriers at Jaisinghpur Khera and Khandedwra. Four Assistant Excise and Taxation Officers at Jaisinghpur Khera and

one Assistant Excise and Taxation Officer at Khandewra have been detailed to make the barriers more effective.

On taxation side, there are 18 Taxation Inspectors to assist the officers. Of these, 8 are working at two sales tax barriers, 2 for passengers and goods tax and remaining 8 are attending to the taxation work. On the excise side, there are three Inspectors, each of whom is in-charge of one excise circle. There are 3 excise, circles viz. Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari.

One Assistant Excise and Taxation Officer (enforcement) has been detailed to check tax evasion under the Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952. He is assisted by one Inspector. Before May, 1975, the work of enforcement in the district was attended to by the Excise and Taxation Officer (enforcement), Gurgaon.

The State and Central Acts, enforced in the State on the excise side are : Punjab Excise Act; 1914; Punjab Local Option Act, 1923; The East Punjab Molasses (Control) Act, 1948; the Indian Opium Act, 1878; The Dangerous Drugs Act, 1930; The Indian Power Alcohol Act, 1948; The Medicinal and Toilet Preparation (Excise Duty) Act, 1952 and the Spirituous Preparation (Inter State Trades and Commerce) Control Act, 1955.

The excise revenue collected from various sources such as licence fee, duty, assessed fee, permit fee, etc., during 1975-76 to 1977-78 is shown below :—

Year	Amount
	Rs.
1975-76	82,04,599
1976-77	90,52,020
1977-78	1,06,90,087

On the taxation side the state and central Acts, administered by the department in the district are :

- (1) The Punjab Motor Spirit (Taxation of Sales) Act, 1939
- (2) The Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act, 1940
- (3) The Punjab Passengers and Goods Taxation Act, 1952
- (4) The Punjab Entertainments (Cinematograph Shows) Act 1954, (5) The Punjab Entertainment Duty Act, 1952, (6) The Central Sales

Tax Act, 1956, (7) The Punjab Professions, Trades, Callings and Employments Taxation Act, 1956 and (8) The Haryana General Sales Tax Act, 1973.

Sales Tax.—It is a tax on the sale or purchase of movable goods in one form or another. It is levied under the Haryana General Sales Tax Act, 1973 which has replaced the Punjab General Sales Tax Act, 1948, since May 5, 1973. Some of the commodities which are consumed by relatively poor sections of people have been exempted from taxation, whereas luxury goods which are consumed by all well-to-do people are taxed at a higher rate. Thus motor vehicles, auto-cycles, refrigerators, clocks and watches, iron and steel safes and almirahs, radios and radio-parts, gramophones, tape recorders, imported liquor are some of the items which are taxed at the rate of 10 per cent.

The important goods exempted from the tax are electric energy, agricultural implements, fertilizers, vegetables (except when sold in tins, bottles or cartons), fresh fruit, sugar, textiles, goods sold to the Indian Red Cross Society, St. John Ambulance Association, the Cooperative for American Relief Everywhere (CARE), United Nations Technical Assistance Board, Save the Children Fund Association, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, World Health Organisation and cooperative societies certified by the Khadi and Village Industries Commission. Special concessional treatment has been given to a few selected items such as food grains, declared goods¹, ready-made garments, tractors, pesticides, raw wool and knitting wool and raw hides.

The collections from the sales tax in the district during 1975-76 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	1,04,13,005
1976-77	1,16,53,082
1977-78	1,46,40,722

Central Sales Tax.—The Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, provides for levy of tax on sales made in the course of inter-state trade and commerce. The states have been authorised to administer this Act on behalf of the Government of India. The entire collection of this tax is appropriated by the states. This central fiscal enactment has given the states a major source of revenue which is increasing day by day.

1. Goods which are of special importance in inter-state trade have been treated as declared goods.

The rate of tax was 3 per cent on inter-state sale to registered dealers or on declared goods to registered or unregistered dealers and 10 per cent on inter-state sale to unregistered dealers. Under Section 8(5) of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956, the state government has been empowered to reduce the rate of tax on certain classes of goods, or class of dealers, or traders if it is expedient to do so in the interest of the State.

The collections of revenue under the Central Sales Tax Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as under :

Year	Amount
	(Rs.)
1975-76	31,05,868
1976-77	51,94,760
1977-78	59,59,755

Property Tax.—The property tax¹ is leviable under the Punjab Urban Immovable Property Tax Act, 1940. This tax is charged at the rate of 10 per cent of the annual rental value of the building and lands situated in the rating areas (municipal area). A surcharge of 50 per cent of tax is also levied from April 1, 1967. The self occupied residential houses are, however, exempt from the levy of tax to encourage construction activities in the state.

According to Section 7 of the Act, the assessment of the property units in the rating areas is to be revised after every 5 years, unless this period is extended or reduced by the state subject to a maximum period of 3 years. Property unit which is assessed at an annual rental value of up to Rs. 300 is exempted from the levy of property tax. In case of widows and orphans, the exemption limit is up to the annual rental value of Rs. 600. The revenue collected under the Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 is shown below :—

Year	Amount
	(Rs.)
1975-76	3,82,252
1976-77	4,54,510
1977-78	31,848

Passengers and Goods Tax.—The Punjab Passengers and Goods

1. The Act was repealed with effect from April, 1977.

Taxation Act, 1952 came into force on August 1, 1952. The Act provides that a tax shall be levied on all fares and freights in respect of passengers carried and goods transported in transport vehicles for the public in the state. The rate of tax, which was 25 per cent of the fare or freight paid by a passenger, was enhanced to 35 per cent on July 21, 1967 and to 40 per cent on October 7, 1969. In 1977-78, it was 60 per cent of the fare and freight. However, in some cases the levy is charged in lump sum.

The collections made under the Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as under :

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	1,00,20,320
1976-77	1,06,59,749
1977-78	1,08,79,327

Entertainment Duty.—The Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1936 was replaced by the Punjab Entertainments Duty Act, 1955, on November 4, 1955. The rates of duty have been changing over the years. The rate of tax on the payment of admission to a show, which had been 50 per cent since 1967-68, was raised to 60 per cent from December 12, 1970 and to 75 per cent from January 19, 1971. The rate was revised to 100 per cent from January 15, 1973. The rate was revised to 125 per cent from September, 1977. It was 100 per cent for 30 per cent seats in cinema hall provided these are comprised in complete rows, with effect from December 15, 1978.

The collections from the entertainment duty during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as follows :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	20,65,755
1976-77	20,52,461
1977-78	23,30,540

Show Tax.—The Punjab Entertainment Tax (Cinematograph Shows Act, 1954, came into force on May 4, 1954. The show tax is levied on the exhibitors for every show on the number of occupied seats of a cinema house. Later in 1974, the show tax was made 10 per cent of the entertainment duty payable.¹

1. It was reduced to 9 per cent of the entertainment duty with effect from March 8 1979.

The collections of tax from 1975-76 to 1977-78 under this Act were as under :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	2,04,072
1976-77	2,12,329
1977-78	2,39,408

Motor Spirit.—This tax was levied under the Punjab Motor Spirit (Taxation of Sales) Act, 1939. The rate of tax had changed a number of times. In 1970-71, it was 6 paise per litre on petrol and other motor spirit items. However, since July 21, 1967, the stage of levy of tax has been shifted from 'last sale' to 'first sale' within the state. This change has minimised the difficulty experienced earlier by traders and only depots of oil companies who make 'first sale' pay the tax. The present rate of tax is 12 paise per litre on high speed diesel, etc., and 15 paise per litre on petrol.

The collections of this tax during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as under :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	2,71,683
1976-77	376
1977-78	4,897

Professions Tax.—Every person who carries on trade, either by himself or through an agent or representative or who follows a profession or calling or who is in employment either wholly or in part, within the state, is liable to pay for each financial year (or a part thereof) professions tax under the Punjab Professions, Trades, Calling and Employment Taxation Act, 1956. The maximum limit of the tax was Rs. 250 per annum payable by a person whose income is more than Rs. 25,000 and the minimum is Rs. 120 per annum, payable by a person whose gross income ranges between Rs. 6,000 and Rs. 8,500. However, no tax is charged from the person whose annual income is below Rs. 6,000. This Act was repealed with effect from April 1, 1977.

Previously this Act was administered by the Finance Department through Treasury Officers in the state. Since April 1, 1964 it has been transferred to Excise and Taxation Department. Now, the Assistant

Excise and Taxation Officers function as the assessing authority under the Act.

The collections of revenue in the district under this Act during the period 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as follows :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	2,68,208
1976-77	3,07,051
1977-78	38,300

Central Sources of Revenue

Central Excise Duties.—The Central Excise is administered by the central government. The Mahendragarh district falls under the charge of Assistant Collector, Central Excise Division, Rohtak of Delhi Collectorate.

The main sources of central excise duties are : iron and steel products, refined diesel oil, copper and copper alloys, zinc sheets, paper and tobacco.

The collections of central excise duties during 1975-76 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	8,65,122
1976-77	12,32,095
1977-78	13,45,727

Income Tax.—The Indian Income Tax Act of 1922 was replaced by the Income Tax Act of 1961 with effect from April 1, 1962. The collections under this Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 are as follows :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	45,16,479
1976-77	42,24,532
1977-78	3,76,172

Estate Duty.—The Estate Duty Act, 1953 (34 of 1953) came into force on October 15, 1953. The duty is leviable on the estate of those dying after this date. Proceedings for this levy have to be initiated within 5 years of the death but no time has been fixed for the completion of assessment. The collections under this Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as under :

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	69,417
1976-77	14,788
1977-78	9,353

Wealth Tax.—The Wealth Tax Act, 1957, came into force from the assessment year 1957-58. In the case of an individual, the tax is leviable if the net wealth exceeds Rs. 1 lakh, and in the case of Hindu undivided family, if it exceeds Rs. 2 lakh. The collections under this Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as under :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	3,04,332
1976-77	48,583
1977-78	3,260

Gift Tax.—The Gift Tax Act, 1958, was enforced on April 1, 1958. It is leviable subject to certain exemptions on all gifts made after April 1, 1957 if the total value of the gift (movable and immovable) exceeds Rs. 5,000. The collections under this Act during 1975-76 to 1977-78 were as under :—

Year	Amount (Rs.)
1975-76	27,875
1976-77	35,584
1977-78	910

CHAPTER XII

LAW AND ORDER AND JUSTICE

LAW AND ORDER

INCIDENCE OF CRIME

Dacoity, robbery, house-breaking, theft at railway stations and roads, theft of standing crops and corn from stalks, cattle stealing and receiving, distilling illicit liquor and trafficking in women were common crimes in the district before partition and Minas, Bawarias Rangars, were criminal tribes which were addicted to these offences. They committed these crimes in organised gangs and operated much beyond the jurisdiction of the district.

Minas in the Rewari area organized gangs for the commission of robberies and dacoities in Rajputana and other parts during the Pre-Independence period . They usually acted under the leadership of Thokdars and went armed and mounted on camels. They usually sent on spies who disguised themselves as *fakirs*, *purohits*, etc., or got employment as servants in or about the house of the victim selected. A very favourite plan in cities and towns was to enter as a marriage procession and make the attack from inside during the night. They took great care to master the manners and customs of *fakirs*, mendicant Brahmans and musicians so as to obtain easy access into the house of wealthy persons. Their depredations were usually marked by their great violence and the completeness of the arrangements for retreat and the speedy disposal of loot.

On being compelled by such crimes, the authorities of the British government and princely states introduced Criminal Tribes Act and other reformatory measures and the incidence of such type of crime was lessened. As the district has undergone territorial changes the year-wise data pertaining to various crimes are not available.

The disorderly conditions prevailing on the eve of the Partition in 1947 caused a havoc and as a result the law and order situation became unmanageable. It took quite sometime for conditions to become normal and downward trend in the incidence of the crime started after 1950. However, an idea regarding the trend of various crimes

in the district from 1970 to 1978 may be had from the following table :—

(Only reported cases)

I	1970	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
All Crimes Class I to VI	1,091	1,102	1,353	1,695	1,918	1,708	1,562	1,184	372
Murder	8	5	6	8	15	7	8	7	1
Dacoity	—	—	—	1	—	1	—	2	—
Robbery	1	—	—	1	1	1	1	2	1
Burglary	67	61	80	161	172	113	64	97	21
Rioting	3	3	5	9	18	3	—	—	—
Sex Crime	10	3	2	15	9	11	4	8	4
Theft	96	74	88	173	228	185	107	152	51
Cattle theft	15	11	24	26	38	26	25	32	7
Cheating	13	19	11	7	21	15	7	5	3
Smuggling in Foodgrains	9	11	6	143	110	45	17	9	—
Miscellaneous	869	915	1,131	1,151	1,306	1,301	1,329	870	284

The important categories of crime are described as under :—

Murder.—Murder is always taken as fortuitous crime and cannot be foreseen. The main motives behind murder are illicit relations, domestic quarrels, land disputes, lure of property, personal enmity, etc. This type of crime is mainly confined to rural areas. The number of cases reported in 1974 was 15 as against 7 in 1977. After 1974, the incidence of this crime has been showing a descending trend.

Dacoity.—Due to the unsettled conditions prevailing after the partition, the incidence of dacoity in the district rose high in 1950 when 6 such cases were reported. There were several cases (under PEPUSU government) in which policemen were singled out and shot dead by dacoits with the result the police stood completely demoralised and the policemen were generally reluctant to go into the country-side in uniform. Keeping in view the dangerous situation, government took strict measures. In 1951, the anti-dacoity police staff arrested 9 dangerous dacoits in the district. Since then this heinous crime has been brought under check.

Robbery.—The crime is not high in the district. One case was reported in 1970 while only two cases were brought to the notice of police in 1977. This crime is under control due to preventive measures adopted by the police.

1. Class I to VI signifies all cognizable offences under Indian Penal Code and Local and Special Laws.

Burglary.—Burglaries are committed by those who have exhausted their means of livelihood. This sort of crime was committed in the district by the criminals from the adjoining areas who after committing the burglaries again took shelter in their native villages.

The number of cases reported in 1970 was 67. But there was a sudden increase in the incidence of this crime from 1972 to 1974 and then started a downward trend from 1975 to 1978. The cases reported were 80 in 1972; 161 in 1973 and 172 in 1973. The crime is now well under control.

Rioting.—There was a gradual rise in rioting cases during 1972, 1973 and 1974. There was no such case after 1975.

Sex Crime.—All the cases of rape and abduction have been clubbed here. The number of rape cases were not so high in the district; while the cases of kidnapping and abduction were reported as 15 in 1973 (being highest). Such cases were isolated in character and not the work of any organized gang in the district. Most of the cases were of love affairs.

Theft.—The incidence of crime though fluctuating, showed an alarming increase during 1974 after which a downward trend started.

Cattle theft.—Only professional offenders commit this crime for fetching easy and good money. After lifting the cattle, the offenders pass on to adjoining areas. The cases reported in 1974 were 38. From 1975 there was a gradual downward trend in the incidence of this crime.

Cheating.—The offence of cheating is quite under control in the district. But, so long as the people do not pull out of the materialistic conception of life, this offence can not be vanished altogether. The number of such cases reported during 1974 was 21, being the highest.

Smuggling in food grains.—Only 9 cases were reported in 1970 but the number of cases assumed much proportion in 1973. Thereafter it began to decline. The greedy traders illegally passed on wheat to the adjoining state of Rajasthan for fetching good price.

Offences under Excise Act, Arms Act and Police Act.—The Excise Act, the Arms Act and the Police Act add considerably to the normal incidence of crime. The cases detected by the police under the Excise Act were 403 in 1970. In 1976, 752 cases being the highest number, were registered.

Under the Arms Act, only 43 cases were detected in 1976 (being highest) as against 20 cases in 1970.

The Police Act which is applicable in the towns deals with smaller offences relating to public peace and regulation of traffic. On the whole the law and order situation in the district was well under control.

Road traffic and transport.—The road traffic, besides the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1914, is regulated by several other Acts¹. The yearwise details of road accidents reported in the district are as under :—

Year	Number
1970	15
1971	18
1972	15
1973	38
1974	35
1975	39
1976	30
1977	47
1978	20

POLICE

In 1870, separate *Naib-Nazims* were appointed and the *thana* functionaries were placed under *Naib Nazim* and *Nazim* and *Adalati* or *Hakim-i-adalati-sadar* was the Chief of them. In 1882, the Police Department in the princely states was organised on the British model and a District Superintendent of Police was appointed. The then Mahendragarh Nizamat had *thanas* at Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry. Besides, there were 14 out posts along the border of the state of Patiala which were later abolished.

The Bawal Nizamat which is now Bawal tahsil of the Mahendragarh district had *thanas* at Bawal, Kanti and Kanina. In Rewari tahsil which was the part of the Gurgaon district had *thanas* at Rewari, Jatusana and Khole. There were road-posts at Dharuhera, Kund (Kundal), Khori and Nimoth.

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1. (i) Sections 279, 304A, 337 and 338 of Indian Penal Code;
 - (ii) The State Carriage Act XVI of 1861;
 - (iii) The Hackney Carriage Act, 1879;
 - (iv) The Police Act III, 1888;
 - (v) The Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act XI of 1890;
 - (vi) The Punjab Municipal Act, 1911.
 - (vii) The Punjab Motor Vehicle Taxation Act, 1925; and the Indian Motor Vehicles Act, 1939.

In 1978, the Mahendragarh district had 10 police stations as detailed below :—

<u>Name of Tahsil</u>	<u>Name of Police Station</u>
1. Narnaul	(i) Narnaul (ii) Nangal Chaudhry (iii) Ateli
2. Mahendragarh	(iv) Mahendragarh (v) Kanina
3. Rewari	(vi) Rewari City (vii) Rewari Sadar (viii) Jatusana
4. Bawal	(ix) Khole (x) Bawal

Organisation of Police

For the purpose of police administration the Mahendragarh district falls under the administrative control of a Deputy Inspector General of Police, Hisar Range, Hisar. At the district level the administration of police is controlled by the Superintendent of Police.

On March 31, 1978, the police force in the district was as under :—

	Superin- tendent of Police	Deputy Superin- tendents of Police	Inspec- tors	Sub Ins- pectors	Assist- ant Sub Inspectors	Head cons- tables	Cons- tables
Permanent strength	1	2	2	16	19	76	432
Temporary strength	—	—	—	2	6	21	119
Deputation, reserve for Excise Staff and Sales Tax Barriers	—	—	—	—	1	2	9
Total :	1	2	2	18	26	99	560

Civil Police.—The civil police is detailed for duty at the police stations. Each of the stations is under the charge of a police officer, known as Station House Officer, assisted by one or more officers, a Head Constable, a

Maharrir or Clerk Constable and number of Constables depending upon the load of work. The Station House Officer maintains law and order and investigates offences occurring within his jurisdiction.

Mounted Police.—The District Armed Reserves are kept in the police lines, Narnaul, for deployment during any exigency that may arise in connection with the maintenance of law and order. Mounted police is made available by the Haryana Armed Police whose responsibility is confined to patrol the border areas between U.P. and Rajasthan as an anti-dacoity measure and also to stop smuggling. However, the Haryana Armed Police contingents are also deployed for the protection of vulnerable points, viz. power houses, railway bridges, etc.

Railway Police.—The railway police is not allotted to any district in particular but it is a part of a separate state organisation functioning under the Deputy Inspector General of Railway Police, Haryana, Ambala Cantonment. The circles of the railway police are formed according to sections of the railway lines.

There is a railway police station at Rewari with one out-post located at Narnaul. Its jurisdiction extends to the railway premises within the territorial jurisdiction of the Mahendragarh district.

The main functions of railway police are to investigate all types of crime within its jurisdiction; to maintain law and order at railway stations and in trains; to protect travellers from injury to person or property; to keep the platforms clear of idlers and beggars; to keep a look out for suspicious persons; to patrol all passenger trains and to provide escorts to important night trains.

Police Wireless Stations.—For receiving and transmitting messages, wireless sets have been provided to police stations at Narnaul, Nangal Chaudhry, Ateli, Mahendragarh, Kanina, Khole, City Rewari, Sadar Rewari, Bawal and Jatusana and at Jaisinghpur Khera barrier. These have a direct link with the district control room set up at Narnaul. In the maintenance of law and order and in dealing with emergencies requiring quick transmission of important messages for immediate action, the system plays a very important role.

Village Police.—For over a century some of the police functions at village level in the areas of the Mahendragarh district were performed by *zaildars*, *sufaidposhes*, *chowkidars* and *Inamkhors*. The institution of *chowkidari* alone survives, all the others were abolished in 1948. The *chowkidars* report births and deaths in a *thana* fortnightly, give information of crime, keep surveillance over the bad characters residing in the village and report

their movements. Besides attending to watch and ward duties, they generally assist the public officer on tour.

In the remote past, the village chowkidar used to receive, as his remuneration, a share from each cultivators produce which was reckoned according to the number of hearths. Now the chowkidars are paid by the government.

Previously *thikar* chowkidars were selected by lot from among the residents of a village; those unwilling to serve were obliged to pay the cost of substitute. These chowkidars were provided only during an epidemic, outbreak of crime and emergencies. With the advent of democratic decentralization, the chowkidari system, which was a sort of *shramdan* aimed at providing safety to the person and property has now become weak and is not of much help in the field of watch and ward. People generally are averse to *thikri pehras* and no longer enthusiastic. The Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952 has, however, authorised panchayats to raise their own voluntary force for the purpose.

Home Guards.—Home Guards, known as voluntary force to meet eventualities of law and order, civil defence, fire fighting, natural disaster and internal security was started in the district in 1960-61. The overall charge of Home Guards organisation of the Mahendragarh district was with the District Commandant, Home Guards, Gurgaon, uptill March, 1974 and thereafter it came under the District Commandant, Home Guards, Bhiwani. Both the districts (Bhiwani and Mahendragarh) have combined training centre for rural home guards at Narnaul.

In 1978, there were 3 urban companies, i.e. 2 at Rewari and 1 at Narnaul, each having a strength of 101 cadets and 8 rural companies with a strength of 100 cadets each.

JAILS

There were jails at Mahendragarh and Bawal with an accommodation for 50 and 100 prisoners respectively in 1904. Besides there was a lock-up at Narnaul which could accommodate 40 convicts¹. In 1978, there were 3 sub-jails, one each at Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Rewari.

Sub-Jail, Mahendragarh.—The sub-jail of Mahendragarh² is housed in the old fort on Rewari-Narnaul road. The Sub-Divisional Magistrate, Mahendragarh, holds part-time charge as Superintendent of the sub-jail. The other staff consist of one Assistant Superintendent, One Head Warder, 14 Warders, one Dispenser (whole-time) one Doctor (part-time) and one

1. *Phulkian States Gazetteer, (Patiala, Jind and Nabha)*, 1904, pp. 175 and 379.

2. Sub-Jail Mahendragarh was upgraded as District Jail on 1-9-85.

Sweeper. It can accommodate 50 under-trials. Only under trials are kept here. Though there is a provision to keep the convicts and political prisoners here yet the convicts of more than six months are sent generally to the District Jail, Bhiwani. Average daily number of inmates during 1978 was 18.

The sub-Jail is spacious, electrified and kept neat and is provided with bathrooms and flush latrines for the use of inmates. Besides, ceiling fans have also been provided in the wards. There is a separate ward for political prisoners known as 'B Class' ward. Newspapers and magazines are provided to them at government expenses daily. Besides, there is a part-time doctor who attends to the sick inmates. There is a small farm where seasonal vegetables are grown by the prisoners for use in the kitchen. The surplus vegetables are sold in the open market.

Sub-Jail, Narnaul.—The Sub-Jail located in the old fort was a police lock-up which was converted to judicial lock-up in 1970. The Sub-Divisional Officer (civil), Narnaul, holds part-time charge as Superintendent of the sub-jail. The other staff consist of one Assistant Superintendent, one Head-Warder, 10 Warders, one Medical Officer (Part-time), one Dispenser (part-time) and one Sweeper. The authorised accommodation of the sub-jail is for 60. Though there is a provision to keep the convicts here up to three months' sentence yet only the undertrial criminals are kept generally. On conviction they are transferred to the District Jail, Bhiwani/Hisar.

The sub-jail is spacious, electrified and ceiling fans have been fitted in the wards.

Sub-jail, Rewari.—Sub-jail, Rewari, was established on January 5, 1970. Previously it was a judicial lock-up. The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) is in charge of this sub-jail. The other staff consist of one Assistant Superintendent, one Head Warder, seven Warders and one Sweeper. The authorised accommodation of the sub-jail is for 14. A part time doctor attends to sick inmates.

Welfare of Prisoners.—Though the jails are considered penal institutions, the policy of the government is not of retribution or revenge but reformation and rehabilitation of those men and women who find themselves in jails for a variety of reasons. The prisoner is given training as will enable him to settle down as honest, reformed and useful citizen of the community after his release.

JUSTICE

History

Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils.—In the beginning of twentieth century, Narnaul and Mahendragarh tahsils were part of the Patiala State

which was one of the three Phulkian states. During the time of Maharaja Narinder Singh five *nizamats* were marked off and Mahendragarh Nizamat was one of the five *nizamats*. The *nazims* were appointed to each tahsil. Tahsildars were also appointed in each tahsil and they, in addition to their revenue work, dealt with criminal and civil cases. The headquarters staff of each *nizamat* consisted of a *nazim*, two *naib-nazim* and a tahsildar in charge of the tahsil headquarters. *Nazims* were appointed by Maharaja Narinder Singh under the name of *munsarim hadbast* to introduce cash assessment.

The *Nazims*, tahsildars and Naib *Nazims*, who were called Sub Judge-cum-Magistrates were appointed to deal with criminal and civil cases. In the reign of Maharaja Mahendra Singh, the tahsildars were deprived of their criminal and judicial jurisdiction except criminal jurisdiction in few petty cases. Besides, two Naib *Nazims* were appointed in each *nizamat* to decide civil and criminal cases and superintend the police. In 1904, the then Mahendragarh district was under a *Nazim* who was assisted by one Naib *Nazim* and two tahsildars. The Naib *Nazim* was posted at Narnaul. The tahsildars had power to give three months' imprisonment and Rs. 25 as fine. Naib *Nazim* had power to give three years' imprisonment and Rs.1,000 as fine. Appeals from the Courts of tahsildars and Naib *Nazim* went to the *Nazim*. The *Nazim* was practically a Deputy Commissioner with the powers of a Sessions Judge in addition. He had the power to pass sentence of 14 years' imprisonment and Rs. 1,000 fine. From the decisions of *Nazim*, the appeals lay to the Chief Court in civil and criminal cases and the Commissioner and Revenue Minister (*Dewan*) in the revenue cases. In civil cases, the further appeals lay to *Ijlas-i-Khas* (the court of Maharaja).

The Chief Court might pass any sentence authorised by law. Capital punishment and imprisonment for life, however, needed the confirmation of the *Ijlas-i-Khas*. In murder cases the opinion of the *Sadr Ahlkars* was taken before the sentence was confirmed.

Special jurisdiction in criminal cases was also exercised by certain officials. The Foreign Minister had the powers of a *nazim* in cases where one party or both were not the subjects of Patiala, Jind or Nabha. Appeals lay to the Chief Court. Cases under the Telegraph and Railway Acts, were decided by an officer of the Foreign Department subject to the appeal to the Foreign Minister. Certain canal and forest officers had magisterial powers in cases falling under Canal and Forest Acts. The Inspector-General of Police exercised similar powers in respect of cases which concerned the police. During the settlement operations the settlement officers were invested with the powers to decide revenue cases with an appeal to the Settlement Commissioner. Powers of revision (*nigrani*) could be exercised by the *Adalati* and the Sessions Court; review by the Chief Court and *Ijlas-i-Khas* only.

A code of Civil Procedure, compiled from the British Indian Act VII of 1859 and Act XXIII of 1869 with suitable modifications, was introduced.

These arrangements continued upto October, 1939, when criminal and civil justice were placed under Bhatinda Sessions Division and a District and Sessions judge used to come on tour at Narnaul.

Later, the Mahendragarh district was attached to Sunam and then to Sangrur Sessions Division and thereafter, was transferred to Gurgaon Sessions Division in 1966 on the formation of Haryana.

Bawal tahsil.—The Bawal tahsil was a *nizamat* of erstwhile princely state of Nabha and contained *parganas* of Kanina and Ateli. Each *nizamat* had a District Court over which the *nazim* presided. Subordinate to him was the Court of the Naib-*nazim*. Superior to the *nazim's* court was the *Adalat Sadr*; above that the *Ijlas-i-Khas*, consisting of three judges, and highest of all the *Ijlas-i-Khas*, over which the Raja presided.

The lowest court, that of the naib-*nazim*, could impose sentences not exceeding one year's imprisonment or fine not exceeding Rs. 50 or took security for good conduct upto Rs. 50 the amount for a period not exceeding six months. The *nizamat* courts had powers to impose sentences not exceeding three year's imprisonment, fine not exceeding Rs. 500, whipping not exceeding six strips (in Bawal *nazim* might impose 12 strips) or security up to Rs. 200 for a period not exceeding two years. The *Sadar Adalat* might impose five years' imprisonment, Rs. 1,000 fine, 12 strips and demanded security for good behaviour upto Rs. 1,000 or imposed imprisonment in default up to 2 years. The *Ijlas-i-Khas* had absolute power to impose any sentence of death, imprisonment, banishment of state territory, fine or confiscation of property. The Tahsildars also exercised criminal powers in case of criminal trespass (by infringement of boundaries, etc.) imposing fine not exceeding Rs. 25 or in default six months' imprisonment. Railway cases were heard by the Railway Magistrates.

For civil cases there was a Munsiff in each *nizamat*, with appeal to the *nizamat* court. The Munsiff tried civil cases up to Rs. 1,000 in value. For all others the *nizamat* court was the court of original jurisdiction.

The Tahsildars tries petty revenue cases up to Rs. 100 in value, all others going to the *nizamat* courts. Appeals from the *nizamat* court and *Niabat Adalat Sadr* lay to the *Sadr Adalat* in all cases, including civil suits, but appeals on executive revenue matters went from District Court to the Dewan. Appeals from *Adalat Sadr* lay to the *Ijlas-i-Khas*. Lambardari and mutation cases were heard by Tahsildars, and those transferred to the *nizamat* and *dewani* cases were finally decided in the *ijllas-i-Khas*.

The Indian Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes were in force with certain modifications, of which most important are detailed below :—

- (i) In order to check immorality the police were authorised to take cognisance of all cases of adultery or fornication without complaint.
- (ii) In cases of rape, compensation was given to woman from the property of the criminal.
- (iii) In the case of abduction of married women, her husband was remunerated in cash.
- (iv) In case of theft, criminal breach of trust or fraud, the loss was made good from criminal's property, summarily, without resort to a civil suit.
- (v) In cases of homicide not amounting to murder, in addition to the punishment imposed on the offender, the murdered man's heir was compensated from offender's property.
- (vi) In all criminal cases the complainant could appeal, even if the accused was acquitted.

On formation of PEPSU in the year 1948, Bawal was added to Gurgaon district and Ateli and Kanina were added to Mahendragarh district.

Rewari tahsil.—Rewari tahsil was a part of the Gurgaon district, a British territory and the Deputy Commissioner was the District Magistrate for criminal work. The Tahsildars and Naib Tahsildars were second class and third class magistrates. Besides, there were honorary magistrates with third class powers and their jurisdiction extended to the limits of Rewari Municipality only. The District Judge exercised the powers under Punjab Courts Act, 1918. The civil and criminal courts of the district were subordinate to the District and Sessions Judge, Delhi. The Gurgaon district was later attached to the Hisar Sessions Division and District & Sessions Judge, Hisar, used to visit Gurgaon for the disposal of criminal and civil work as an appellate court. The district was transferred to Karnal Sessions Division in 1950 and to Rohtak Session Division in 1955. In 1966, the Gurgaon district became the fulfilled Sessions Division covering the Mahendragarh district also. The Rewari tahsil became a part of district Mahendragarh in 1972.

On November 15, 1974, a new District and Sessions Division was created at Bhiwani. In April, 1975, Mahendragarh district was also put under the overall administrative control of the District & Sessions Judge,

Bhiwani¹. The District & Sessions Judge functions under Punjab and Haryana High Court, Chandigarh and is assisted by an Additional District & Sessions Judge in the disposal of criminal and civil work at Narnaul. There is one Senior Sub-Judge, one Chief Judicial Magistrate and two Sub-Judge-Judicial Magistrates. Besides, there are two Courts of Sub Judge-cum-Judicial Magistrate at Mahendragarh and three at Rewari.

After the passing of Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, some of the functions of civil, criminal and revenue courts were made over to the Panchayats, where the cases lie in the exclusive jurisdiction of the Panchayats, their cognizance by other courts is barred. The Chief Judicial Magistrate is empowered to revise the decisions of Panchayats in criminal cases under section 51 of the Gram Panchayat Act and he can delegate his powers to the Illaqa Magistrates, if he likes.

Although, separation of executive from judiciary was introduced in princely State of Patiala but, the year cannot be ascertained fully. The Gurgaon was one of the districts where separation was introduced on an experimental basis and thereafter, the system was introduced in the whole of Punjab in 1964.

Revenue Courts.—The Collector is the highest revenue authority in the district and an appeal or revision against his orders lies to the Divisional Commissioner and against the orders of the Divisional Commissioner an appeal or revision lies to the Financial Commissioner. The Government has invested the Sub-Divisional Officers (Civil) in the district with the powers of Collectors. The General Assistant, the Assistant Commissioners/Extra Assistant Commissioners are Assistant Collectors of the first grade. However, the Tahsildars exercise powers of Assistant Collectors of the first grade in partition cases.

BAR ASSOCIATIONS

In 1978, there were three bar associations in the district i.e. one each at Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari. These associations provide the practising lawyers with a forum to improve their working conditions and to safeguard their interests. The bar association Narnaul, was established in 1859 with a membership of eleven. In 1978, it had 96 members. The bar association, Rewari, was established in 1897 with an initial membership of two which rose to 64 in 1978. The bar association, Mahendragarh, was established in 1951 with a membership of six which rose to 30 in 1978.

1. An independent Sessions division was created at Narnaul with effect from 25-3-1983.

CHAPTER XIII

OTHER DEPARTMENTS

The organisational set-up, duties and functions of the departments not mentioned in other chapters, are briefly described here :

PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

The three wings of the Public Works Department located in the district are : (i) Public Health, (ii) Irrigation and (iii) Buildings and Roads.

Public Health

The public health works (sewerage, water-supply and sanitary installations) in the district are under the charge of the Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department, Public Health Circle, Bhiwani. He is assisted by the Executive Engineer, Public Health Division, Rewari and the Executive Engineer, Public Health Division, Charkhi Dadri. The administrative control at the state level is with the Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Department, Public Health Branch, Haryana, Chandigarh.

Public Health Division, Rewari.—This division has been functioning since May 1, 1973 and is headed by an Executive Engineer, assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Engineers, viz. (i) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division No. 1, Rewari, (ii) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division No. II, Rewari, (iii) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division No. III, Rewari and (iv) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division No. II, Narnaul. The division undertakes the execution of public works relating to water-supply, sewerage and sanitation in rural and urban areas within its jurisdiction.

Public Health Division, Charkhi Dadri.—This division has been functioning since December 16, 1977 and is headed by an Executive Engineer, assisted by 4 Sub-Divisional Engineers : (i) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division, Mahendragarh, (ii) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division, Charkhi Dadri, (iii) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division II, Charkhi Dadri and (iv) Sub-Divisional Engineer, Public Health Sub-Division III, Charkhi Dadri. It undertakes the execution of the public works relating to water-supply, sewerage and sanitation in rural and urban areas falling within its jurisdiction.

IRRIGATION

The boundaries of irrigation circles/divisions do not coincide with the boundaries of the civil district but are determined by the layout of irrigation channels.* A brief description of the various offices of the Irrigation Department concerned with the district is given below :—

Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Division No. 1, Rewari.—This division was created in 1973-74 for conducting survey, investigation and construction of Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal up to 22 kilometres and its distributaries, i.e. Dawana distributary, Balawas distributary, Rasoli distributary, Ladhuwas distributary, Suma Khera distributary, Bas distributary, Nangla distributary, Buroli distributary, Musepur distributary, Bhurthal distributary and Shiekhpur Minor. This canal will provide irrigation in the Mahendragarh district through lift irrigation system. Jawahar Lal Nehru Sub-Division Kosli at Rewari, (ii) Jawahar Lal Nehru Sub-Division No. 1, Rewari, (iii) Jawahar Lal Nehru Sub-Division No. II, Rewari and (iv) Jawahar Lal Nehru Sub-Division No. III, Rewari, function under this division which is headed by an Executive Engineer. The Superintending Engineer, Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal Circle No. 1, Rohtak supervises the work of this division and functions under the administrative control of the Engineer-in-Chief, Irrigation Department, Haryana, Chandigarh.

Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Division No. II, Rewari.—This division was created in 1973-74, for conducting survey, investigation and construction of Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal from 22 kilometres to 53 kilometres and its off takes, i.e. Nayagaon distributary, Bawal distributary, Jalalpur distributary, Mangaleshwar distributary, Bishanpur distributary, Jitpur distributary, Nikhri distributary, Sanjharpur distributary, Bidawas distributary, Akbarpur distributary, Rajiaka distributary, Kamalpur distributary, Rattanpur distributary, Jatuwas distributary, Raliawas distributary, Bolni distributary and Kheri Motia distributary. Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Sub-Division No. 1, Rewari, (ii) Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Sub-Division No. II, Rewari, (iii) Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Sub-Division No. III, Rewari (iv) Jawahar Lal Nehru Survey Sub-Division No. II, Bawal, (v) Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Sub-ivision No. IV, Rewari, (vi) Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Sub-Division No. V, Rewari and (vii) Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Sub-Division NO. VI, Rewari function under this division which is headed by the Executive Engineer. The Superintending Engineer, Jawahar Lal Nehru Construction Circle No. 1, Rohtak controls the work of this division also.

Mahendragarh Canal Division No. II, at Charkhi Dadri.—This division was created in December, 1974 under the charge of an Executive Engineer having jurisdiction over Mahendragarh, Bhiwani and Rohtak districts

under the Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal Lift Irrigation Scheme. The functions of the division are to undertake investigation, survey and construction of irrigation channels, viz., Mahendragarh Canal, Aulant distributary, Balrod distributary, Bassai distributary, Ramgarh distributary, Kapuri distributary, Bucholi distributary and Rambas distributary in the Mahendragarh district.

Four sub-divisions, i.e. (i) Survey Sub-Division, Mahendragarh, (ii) Mahendragarh Canal Sub-Division No. 5, Charkhi Dadri, (iii) Mahendragarh Canal Sub-Division No. 7, Charkhi Dadri and (iv) Mahendragarh Canal Sub-Division No. 8, Charkhi Dadri are under this division. The Superintending Engineer, Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal Circle No. II, Rohtak, controls this division.

Mahendragarh Canal Division No. III, Narnaul.—This division, headed by an Executive Engineer, was created on April 27, 1976, for the construction of some portion of Narnaul Branch, Kheri distributary, Bawana distributary, Lawan distributary, Mahendragarh distributary and Narnaul branch. Three sub-divisions, i.e. (i) Narnaul Branch Sub-Division No. 1, Mahendragarh, (ii) Narnaul Branch Sub-Division No. 2, Mahendragarh, (iii) Narnaul Branch Sub-Division No. 3, Mahendragarh function under this division. The Superintending Engineer, Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal Circle No. II, Rohtak, has control over this division also.

Mahendragarh Canal Division No. IV, Narnaul.—This division, headed by an Executive Engineer, was created on December 16, 1976, for the construction of Rampura distributary and some portion of Narnaul branch. Two sub-divisions, i.e. Narnaul Branch Sub-Division No. V, Mahendragarh and Narnaul Branch Sub-Division No. VI, Mahendragarh function under this division. The Superintending Engineer, Jawahar Lal Nehru Canal Circle No. II, Rohtak has control over this division.

Bunds and Investigation Division, Narnaul.—This division is headed by an Executive Engineer, who functions under the supervision of the Superintending Engineer, U.D.D. Circle No. II, Gurgaon. The division has jurisdiction over Mahendragarh, Rohtak and Bhiwani districts. Three sub-Divisions, namely : Mahendragarh Investigation Sub-division, Narnaul, (ii) Bunds and Investigation sub-Division No. 1, Rewari, (iii) Bunds and Investigation Sub-division No. II, Rohtak function under this division. The functions of the division include the investigation and implementation of the new minor irrigation and flood control schemes in the district. The maintenance and proper functioning of the bunds are also looked after by this division. It maintains 43 bunds in the Mahendragarh district, i.e. 5 bunds in Mahendragarh tahsil, 7 in Rewari tahsil and 31 in Narnaul tahsil.

BUILDINGS AND ROADS

The buildings and roads in the district are under the charge of Superintending Engineer, Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads), Bhiwani. Two Executive Engineers, viz. Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, Narnaul and Executive Engineer, Provincial Division, Rewari function under his control. The administrative control at the state level lies with the Engineer-in-Chief, Public Works Department (Buildings and Roads), Haryana, Chandigarh.

Provincial Division, Narnaul.—An Executive Engineer holds the charge of this division and has under him (i) Provincial Sub-Division No. 1, Narnaul, (ii) Provincial Sub-Division No. 2, Narnaul, (iii) Maintenance Sub-Division, Narnaul and (iv) Provincial Sub-Division, Mahendragarh. The Provincial Sub-Division No. 1, Narnaul, looks after the construction of major buildings at Narnaul. The Provincial Sub-Division No. 2 and Maintenance Sub-Division, Narnaul look after the roads and buildings in Narnaul tahsil. The Provincial Sub-division, Mahendragarh, looks after the roads and buildings in Mahendragarh tahsil. The major works completed up to March, 1978 by the Division are (i) construction of Government Higher Secondary School for Girls at Narnaul, (ii) construction of high level bridges on Nizampur -Nangal Chaudhry road, (iii) construction of Jersey cross breeding semen bank and residential accommodation under Drought Prone Area Project Scheme at Narnaul and (iv) construction of stockman centres.

Provincial Division, Rewari.—An Executive Engineer holds the charge of this division and has under him (i) Provincial Sub-Division No. 1, Rewari, (ii) Provincial Sub-Division No. 2, Rewari, (iii) Provincial Sub-Division No. 3, Rewari and (iv) Provincial Sub-Division, Bawal. The Provincial Sub-Division Nos. 1,2,3, Rewari look after the construction and maintenance of government buildings and roads in the Rewari tahsil within their respective jurisdiction. The Provincial Sub-Division, Bawal, looks after the construction and maintenance of government buildings and roads in the Bawal tahsil. The major works completed by this division are : (a) construction of residence for Executive Engineer at Rewari, (b) construction of divisional office for Buildings and Roads Department at Rewari and (c) construction of quarters at Rewari.

HARYANA STATE ELECTRICITY BOARD

The Board in the district is represented by two operation divisions, one located at Rewari in 1966 and the other at Narnaul in 1969. Each division is under the charge of an Executive Engineer. The Executive Engineer, Operation, Division, Rewari is assisted by four-Sub-Divisional Officers of (i) Operation Sub-Division, Barauli, (ii) Operation Sub-Division, Bawal, (iii)

Operation Sub-Division, Rewari and (iv) Operation Sub-Urban Sub-Division Rewari. The Executive Engineer, Operation Division, Narnaul is assisted by five Sub-Divisional Officers of (i) Operation Sub-Division, Ateli, (ii) Operation Sub-Division, Nangal Chaudhry, (iii) Operation Sub-Division, Mahendragarh, (iv) Operation Sub-division, Narnaul and (v) Operation Sub-Urban Sub-Division, Narnaul. In addition, there is an Engineer at 132 KV Sub-Station Narnaul and another at 132 KV Sub-Station, Mahendragarh.

The divisions at Narnaul and Rewari are under the overall charge of Superintending Engineers, Haryana State Electricity Board, Operation Circle, Rohtak and Delhi respectively. At the state level, Chief Engineer, Operation, Haryana State Electricity Board, Chandigarh, supervises their work.

The operation divisions look after the supply and maintenance of electricity to rural and urban areas of Mahendragarh, Narnaul, Rewari and Bawal tahsils under their respective jurisdiction and also provide new connections for agricultural, industrial and domestic purposes.

In March, 1969, electricity was made available in 113 villages but by November, 1970, all the villages of the district were electrified. By March, 1976, 17,309 tubewells were provided electric connections. By March, 1978, the number of tubewells energised rose to 21,218 and the area irrigated increased to 2,10,000 acres (84, 984 hectares).

COOPERATIVE DEPARTMENT

This department is represented in the district by one Assistant Registrar (General Line) and two Assistant Registrars (Special Line) Co-operative Societies. The former is posted at Mahendragarh and has jurisdiction on the whole of the district. The Assistant Registrar functions under the administrative control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Haryana, Chandigarh, through the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rohtak. He is assisted by 10 General Line Inspectors and 24 Sub-Inspectors. Besides, 2 Inspectors (Industrial and 10 Sub-Inspectors (Industrial) attached with the Assistant Registrar (Industrial), Co-operative Societies, Gurgaon, also assist the Assistant Registrar (General Line).

The Assistant Registrar (General Line) is responsible for the healthy growth and development of the co-operative movement. He makes sure that agriculturists receive adequate and timely supply of short, medium and long term credit through central co-operative banks, land development banks, primary credit and service societies, etc. He also arranges for the supply of agricultural requisites such as chemical fertilizers, improved seeds, insecticides and pesticides. For better and remunerative prices to the agriculturists, the produce is routed through the marketing societies.

Besides, consumer goods like sugar, foodgrains, kerosene and other essential consumer goods are also made available through co-operative consumer stores in urban areas and primary co-operative credit societies in rural areas.

The two Special Line Assistant Registrars are : Assistant Registrar (Milk Supply), Co-operative Societies, Rewari and Assistant Registrar (Industrial), Co-operative Societies, Gurgaon. They function under the administrative control of the Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Haryana, Chandigarh through the Deputy Registrar, Co-operative Societies, Rohtak. Loans are advanced to milk co-operative societies and farmers for the purchase of buffaloes and arrangement is made for collection of milk and its supply to the chilling centres at Bilaspur and Narnaul. The Assistant Registrar (Milk Supply) has jurisdiction over the whole of Mahendragarh district. The Assistant Registrar (Industrial) has jurisdiction over Gurgaon, Rohtak and Mahendragarh districts and functions under the administrative control of Deputy Registrar (Industrial), Co-operative Societies, Haryana, Chandigarh.

DEPARTMENT OF WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND BACKWARD CLASSES

This department is represented in the district by the District Welfare Officer for Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, who is assisted by four Tahsil Welfare Officers (one in each tahsil), Male and female Social Workers and Lady Attendants working in the welfare community centres in the district. The administrative control at the state level lies with the Director, Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes, Haryana, Chandigarh.

The main duties of the (D.W.O.) include creating public opinion against untouchability and to adopt measures for the welfare and uplift of Scheduled Castes, Vimukat Jatis and other Backward Classes. He also implements the schemes formulated by the government for their welfare and guards the interest of these people against victimisation, untouchability, ejection, etc. He provides legal assistance and guidance for getting employment in industrial establishments.

There are welfare community centres one each at Rewari, Narnaul, Khole (tahsil Rewari), Nangal Chaudhry (tahsil Narnaul) and Pranpura (tahsil Bawal). The Male Social Workers hold adult classes and deliver lectures against the evil practice of untouchability in these community centres.

The female Social Workers hold classes in the *balwadis* and arrange *satsangs* in the community centres. They deliver lectures to Harijan women on the care of babies and general cleanliness, etc. They visit Harijan bastis and create public opinion among the residents that they should observe

no distinction even among themselves and other castes. Sewing, cutting, *ban*-making, *durri*-making, *niwar*-making, candle and soap-making are taught in the community centres.

The Lady Attendants are trained *dais* and provide maternity aid to the expectant mothers.

FINANCE DEPARTMENT

The District Treasury, Narnaul, is under the control of Treasury Officer, Narnaul who is assisted by two Assistant Treasury Officers, one each for the sub-treasuries at Rewari and Mahendragarh. Their administrative control at the state level rests with the Finance Department. Cash transactions of the Narnaul Treasury and Mahendragarh Sub-treasury are conducted through the branches of the State Bank of Patiala at Narnaul and Mahendragarh whereas such transactions of Sub-treasury at Rewari are made through the branch of State Bank of India, Rewari.

The threefold functions of a Treasury Officer comprise (a) receipt of revenue including sale of stamps on behalf of the central and state governments, (b) disbursement of bills of pay and allowances of government employees, bills of contingencies, grants-in-aid, scholarships and pensions including military pensions and (c) maintenance of accounts pertaining to (a) and (b).

PUBLIC RELATIONS DEPARTMENT

This department is represented in the district by the District Public Relations Officer, Narnaul who is assisted by an Assistant Public Relations Officer at Rewari, 4 Male Field Publicity Assistants (one each at Rewari and Mahendragarh and 2 at Narnaul, one Lady Field Publicity Assistant at Narnaul, 2 Cinema Operators (one each at Narnaul and Rewari), 2 Bhajan Parties (one each at Narnaul and Rewari), 1 Drama Party, 9 Block Level Publicity Workers (one each in all the development blocks) and 3 Radio Mechanics (one each at Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari). He maintains 3 Information centres at Narnaul, Rewari and Mahendragarh. The administrative control of the department at the state level lies with the Director, Public Relations, Haryana, Chandigarh.

The District Public Relations Officer maintains constant liaison with the press and the public in general for putting across the government point of view. He undertakes publicity campaigns through meetings, cinema shows, drama performances and personal contacts with a view to informing and educating the people about various programmes and policies formulated by the government and the development made in different fields. He also keeps the government informed of public reaction to its plans and policies and conveys public grievances to the district and state authorities. He is in charge

of the community listening and T. V. schemes under which 393 radio sets and 10 television sets have been allotted to panchayats, co-operative societies, colleges, co-operative banks and schools. The details are as under :

Name of the tahsil	Panch- ayats	Co-ope- rative societies	Middle schools	High schools	College	Coope- rative bank	Total
Narnaul	128	1	3	1	1	1	135
Mahendragarh	113	—	1	4 (1 TV set)	—	—	118
Rewari (Including Bawal)	107 (8 TV sets)	—	16 —	16 (1 TV set)	1	—	140

The mechanics of the department are responsible for the maintenance of these radio sets and televisions. Besides staging dramas on rural reconstruction, films of rural interest are also shown. In addition, programmes are organised to highlight the country's cultural heritage.

FOOD AND SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

This department is represented in the district by the District Food and Supplies Controller who is assisted by one District Food and Supplies Officer, 2 Assistant Food and Supplies Officers, 20 Inspectors and 34 Sub-Inspectors, besides other ministerial establishment. He functions under the administrative control of the Director, Food and Supplies, Haryana, Chandigarh and is responsible for the procurement of foodgrains and their despatch to other states. He also looks after the proper storage of the stocks of foodgrains kept in the provincial reserve and arranges for their distribution. He arranges the distribution of sugar, kerosene, cement, coal/coke, vegetable ghee, etc., at reasonable/controlled prices. The distribution of foodgrains and other essential commodities is regulated through a net-work of fair price shops in the district. These activities are regulated through various control/licensing orders issued by the Food and Supplies Department mainly under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955.

Mahendragarh being a drought affected and deficit district of the state 396 fair price shops were opened in 1976. The fair price shops distribute sugar, wheat-atta, kerosene and controlled cloth to consumers against distribution cards at the rates fixed by the government. During the period of scarcity/drought the Food and Supplies Department manages the supply of essential commodities to the people through these fair price shops. The number of these shops reduced to 380 during 1977-78. During 1977-78, state

government established 13 barriers at Narnaul, Gehli, Goad, Nizampur, Raimalikpur, Chandpura, Kanti, (Narnaul tahsil), Kundal, Dharuhera (Rewari tahsil), Bolni, Mohanpur, Jai Singhpur Khera (Bawal tahsil) and Duloth (Mahendragarh tahsil) to check smuggling of foodgrains to Rajasthan.

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

The Economic and Statistical Organisation, under the administrative control of the Planning Department, Haryana, Chandigarh, is represented in the district by the District Statistical Officer. He collects, compiles, analyses and maintains statistics relating to various socio-economic aspects of the district. He also checks and scrutinizes periodical progress reports prepared by the district officers, and prepares the District Statistical Abstract containing comprehensive data on various socio-economic aspects. He also prepares a Municipal Year Book giving detailed statistical information regarding towns.

He collects data relating to weekly and bi-weekly prices of commodities from centres at Narnaul and Rewari for preparing the consumer price index of the Mahendragarh district. His duties include maintenance of record about the arrival of essential commodities in different *mandis*/markets, their disposal, checking of seasons and crop reports, conducting of annual census of government employees, etc. The District Statistical Officer co-ordinates statistical activities of various departments in the district and also renders them technical guidance regarding the collection and compilation of statistics.

The District statistical Officer has been given the additional charge of the District Planning Officer. He formulates district development plans under the guidance and directions of the District Planning Advisory Board, District Planning Committee and District Executive Councils which function under the supervision of the Deputy Commissioner.

DEPARTMENT OF TOWN AND COUNTRY PLANNING, HARYANA URBAN DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY AND COLONIZATION

The department of Town and Country Planning is represented in the district¹ by the District Town Planner, Bahadurgarh (Rohtak) under the control of Regional Town Planner, Rohtak. The Haryana Urban Development Authority is represented by the Estate Officer, Gurgaon. Colonization work is managed directly from the headquarters at Chandigarh. All the three departments function under the overall charge of one Officer with three designations, viz. Director, Town and Country Planning, Chief Administrator, Haryana Urban Development Authority and Director-cum-Special Land Acquisition Collector, Department of Colonization, Haryana, Chandigarh.

1. Office of the District Town Planner, Rewari was established in March, 1982.

The District Town Planner, Bahadurgarh (Rohtak) is concerned with planning of towns of Mahendragarh district in a rational manner to avoid haphazard development beyond and within the municipal limits. The department also undertakes the planning work of other potential areas and villages. A planned new industrial township is being developed around Dharuhera and Kapriwas villages on Delhi-Jaipur road.

This department provides technical help to Rural Development Board, Haryana, in physical and socio-economic planning of villages and to Haryana Urban Development Authority regarding residential planning, industrial and commercial estates. Technical assistance for planning of *mandi* township is also provided by the District Town Planner. The department has prepared plans pertaining to the Improvement Trust, Rewari and town planning of the Rewari town. Besides, it has prepared schemes for industrial estate and *mandi* township at Rewari. A structure plan for village Nangal Chaudhry has also been prepared.

The Haryana Urban Development Authority looks after the requirements of the people for residential, industrial and commercial plots in urban areas of the Mahendragarh district. Prior to the constitution of this Authority in January, 1977, this work was looked after by an Estate Officer, Urban Estate, Gurgaon. The same office looks after the urban development work of the district. Under the Punjab Scheduled Roads and Controlled Areas Restrictions of Unregulated Development Act, 1963 and the Haryana Development and Regulation of Urban Areas Act, 1975, the government has placed restrictions on the haphazard sale of plots by private colonizers. The department has prepared final development plan for Rewari and Dharuhera-Kapriwas; draft development plan for Narnaul controlled area; and a structure plan for Bawal. An interim master plan of Mahendragarh town is under preparation.

To meet the growing need for urbanisation, action for setting up a residential urban estate on an area of 200 acres at Narnaul and a residential colony on an area of 218.15 acres at Rewari is being taken. At both the places land is being acquired. An industrial estate at Rewari having 62 industrial plots of various sizes has been set up and 40 plots have already been allotted to the industrial entrepreneurs. Dharuhera industrial complex is a part of the centrally notified backward area. Out of 78 industrial plots of various sizes in the complex, 57 plots have been allotted to modern industrial units.

The Department of Colonization was set up in 1952 for providing modern marketing facilities in the areas to be irrigated by Bhakra Nangal Canal. Later on the scheme was extended to other areas. The Department of Colonization has established *mandi* township at Rewari. The master and layout plans for the township were prepared by the Town and Country Planning Department and all plots have been sold.

CHAPTER XIV

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

HISTORY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Municipal government in India has its roots in Pre-historic times. The foundations of modern system of the local government were laid by the British particularly after the transfer of power from the East India Company to the Crown. The dominant considerations which prompted the British to establish local government institutions in India were paucity of finances of imperial power, administrative problems due to the large size of the country, and the need of providing relief to the District Officer from some of the details of his work ¹.

Local government was introduced in Rewari in 1864 where a class III municipality was created. In 1885, it was raised to class II status. Later in 1906, a municipality was formed at Narnaul which was declared a small town Committee in 1944-45. Small town committees were also formed at Mahendragarh in 1944-45, Bawal in 1948 and Kanina and Ateli in 1949. Later Narnaul was declared a class III municipality in 1950, Bawal in 1955 and Mahendragarh, Ateli and Kanina in 1956. However, with the passage of Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, Bawal, Kanina, Mahendragarh and Ateli were declared notified areas. In 1978, there were 2 municipalities at Rewari and Narnaul and 4 notified areas of Mahendragarh, Kanina, Ateli and Bawal ².

Till Independence, the Punjab Municipal Act, 1911, set up basic principles of municipal administration. After Independence, the Act was amended to provide wholly elective representation in committees. Provision was made for the appointment of official advisers who were entitled to participate in the deliberations of the municipal committees, but without right to vote. New elections rules were framed to provide for election on the basis of adult universal franchise. The system of elections on communal basis, started purposely by the British, was abandoned. Provision was also made for the reservation of seats for Scheduled Castes.

The East Punjab, Local Authorities (Restriction of Functions) Act, 1947, empowered the State Government to notify certain areas and to assume functions of a local authority where it was not capable of performing or did not adequately perform such functions.

1. Vishnoolal Bhagwan, *Municipal Government and Politics in Haryana*, 1974, p. 1.

2. All notified areas have been converted into municipalities in 1979.

The Punjab Municipal (Second Amendment) Act, 1954, repealed the Punjab Small Town Act, 1921 and converted Town Committees into Class III Municipal Committees. By the Punjab Municipal (Amendment) Act, 1956, reservation was provided for Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes and Backward Classes in the services of Municipalities.

In 1954, Local Government (Urban) Enquiry Committee was set up to recommend reforms in the structure of urban local government. In 1957, the committee in its report recommended enlargement of autonomy of local bodies. All the municipal committees in Haryana were superseded in 1973 and since then, the administration of municipalities has been run by official administrators appointed by the government.

The main functions of the local bodies are to arrange for fire fighting, supply of water for drinking and other purposes, control of dangerous or offensive trades, construction of buildings, roads, streets, drains and sewerage and to look after the public health and scavenging of the towns. These local bodies also provide street lights and make arrangements for playgrounds, public parks, medical aid, public libraries, etc. The main sources of income of the local bodies include octroi, toll tax, cycle tax, cinema show tax, water rate, *teh bazari*, licence fee, building tax, rent of municipal property, sale of compost, etc.

A brief account of each local body of the district is as follows :

Narnaul Municipality

The municipality at Narnaul was first established in 1906. It was converted to a small town committee in 1944-45. An amount of Rs. 45,000 was provided as a loan by the Princely state of Patiala to enable the municipality to start functioning. The committee comprised official and non-official members. Besides 4 non-official members, the *nazim* (ex-officio President), Superintendent of Police, Magistrate, Medical Officer, Tahsildar and Headmaster of Government School were official members. It was raised to the status of class-II municipality in 1950. The municipal committee of Narnaul was superseded with effect from July 15, 1971, and since then the affairs of the municipality has been looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government. The municipality covers an area of 6.48 sq.km. and serves a population of 31,892 (as per 1971 Census).

The piped water-supply in the town was commissioned in 1962. In 1978, the per capita supply was 80 litres per day and there were 150 public stand posts and 2,285 private water connections in the town. The underground sewerage had been provided in a part of the town and the work in other parts was in progress in 1978. The conservancy and public health

services are under a Sanitary Inspector who is assisted by 1 Daroga, 4 Mates, 2 Tractor Drivers and 108 Safai Mazdoors. The refuse is carried to the municipality dumping pits in wheel barrows from where it is carried in two tractors and 8 trolleys to the compost depot. The manure is prepared in the compost depot and is sold out.

The municipality is running a library containing more than 3,000 books in its own building alongwith a reading room.

Kerosene lamps were used for street light before the availability of the electricity and there were 201 fluorescent tubes and 929 bulbs in the town for street lighting as on March 31, 1978.

The income and expenditure of the municipality during 1973-74 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1973-74	15,97,619	16,49,073
1974-75	15,31,956	13,45,988
1975-76	14,26,170	13,43,490
1976-77	34,06,495	20,51,489
1977-78	16,76,487	22,44,035

Rewari Municipality

The municipality at Rewari was first constituted in 1864, as a class III municipality. The committee comprised 12 members, 2 of whom—the Tahsildar and Assistant Surgeon—were ex-officio, 2 were nominated and remaining 8 were elected. Previous to 1907, there was no provision for the separate representation of Hindus and Muslims, but as a result of a petition presented by the Muslims of the town, half the elected members were Hindus and half Muslims. It was raised to class II status in 1885. The elected municipal committee was superseded in May, 1971 and since then the municipality has been looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government. The municipality covers an area of 6 Sq. km. and serves a population of 34,900 (as per 1971 Census).

The piped water-supply to the town was first commissioned in 1920. The water supply was augmented by Sahibi Nadi water in 1964. In 1978, the per capita water supply was 20 litres per day and there were 240 stand posts and 4,242 private water connections in the town.

The under ground sewerage has been commissioned in the town and covers a part of the area where 319 private connections have been given and the municipality has provided public flush latrines. The conservancy and public health services are under the supervision of 2 Sanitary Inspectors, 6 Sanitary Jamadars and 163 Safai Mazdoors. The refuse is carried to the municipality dumping pits in wheel barrows from where it is removed in 4 tractors fitted with trolleys and refuse carts to the municipal compost depot. The manure is prepared in compost depots and is sold out.

Prior to the introduction of electricity in the town in 1940, kerosene lamps were used for street lighting. In 1978, there were 583 fluorescent tubes and 576 electric bulbs in the town for street lighting. The municipality maintains a fire fighting unit with a jeep, fire engine and a motor engine with tractor. The staff of the fire fighting unit consist of two Leading Firemen, 3 Driver Operators and 10 Firemen. The fire fighting unit is under the supervision of a Fire Station Officer.

The municipality is running a library containing 5,000 books in its own building.

The income and expenditure of the municipality during 1973-74 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1973-74	23,58,011	23,19,482
1974-75	31,72,917	28,18,032
1975-76	41,26,386	38,35,468
1976-77	30,78,880	31,29,353
1977-78	37,22,362	37,93,747

Notified Area, Mahendragarh

A small town committee was formed at Mahendragarh in 2002 B.K. The Naib-Tahsildar was its ex-officio member. The other members were : Doctor in-charge of Civil Hospital, Headmaster, two Honorary Magistrates and two elected members from amongst the persons paying land revenue and income tax. The first election to the municipality was held in 1955. The small town committee was raised to class III municipality in 1956. However, with the enforcement of Haryana Municipality Act, 1973, it was made a notified area and since then its affairs have been looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government. It covers an area of 5 square kilometres and serves a population of 11,497 (as per 1971 Census).

The piped water supply was made available in the town in 1961. There is no underground sewerage in the town. However, surface drains have been provided along the main roads. The sanitation and conservancy is under a Daroga Sanitation assisted by one Peon, one Mate and 28 Safai Mazdoors. The refuse is removed to the municipal dumping pits in baskets and wheel barrows from where it is removed to municipal compost depot in 2 camel carts. The manure is prepared in the compost depot and is sold out.

Prior to the introduction of electricity in 1956, kerosene lamps were used for street lighting. The fluorescent tubes and bulbs are now used for street lighting. There is a library with 6,267 books.

The income and expenditure of the notified area during 1973-74 to 1977-78 were as follows—

Year	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1973-74	3,94,780	3,97,156
1974-75	4,00,743	3,92,077
1975-76	5,98,117	4,79,912
1976-77	5,60,708	6,39,162
1977-78	7,22,119	7,39,359

Notified Area, Bawal

A small town committee was formed at Bawal in 1948 and it was upgraded to class III municipality in 1955. With the enforcement of the Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, the Bawal municipality was converted into a notified area and its affairs are looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government. It covers an area of about 2 square km. and serves a population of 6,532 (as per 1971 Census).

The piped water-supply was commissioned in the town in 1971 and in 1978 it covered most parts of the town and the per capita water supply was 55 litres and there were 4 public stand posts and 450 private water connections. The sanitation of the town was looked after by [a Sanitary Jamadar, who was assisted by 15 Sweepers. The refuse of the town was removed in wheel barrows and carts to the manure pits where it was converted into manure and was sold out.

There was a small library. The income and expenditure of the

notified area during 1973-74 to 1977-78 were as follows :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1973-74	2,68,310	1,90,720
1974-75	1,47,808	2,22,231
1975-76	2,31,824	2,12,638
1976-77	2,58,875	2,02,930
1977-78	2,00,440	1,52,579

Notified Area, Kanina

A small town committee was formed in 1949 and it was converted into a class III municipality in 1956. However, with the enforcement of Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, it was converted into notified area and its affairs are looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government.

It covers an area of 2 square kilometres and serves a population of 5,886 (as per 1971 Census).

The piped water-supply in the town was commissioned in 1975 and in 1978 it covered a part of the area and many private water connections were provided. Kerosene lamps were used before 1961 whereafter electric points were installed for street lighting. In 1978, there were 90 electric bulbs for street lighting. A Sanitary Jamadar and 12 Sweepers look after the sanitation of the town. The refuse is removed to dumping pits where manure is prepared and sold out.

The following table shows the income and expenditure from 1974-75 to 1977-78 :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1974-75	1,10,453	83,634
1975-76	1,58,902	1,54,541
1976-77	2,15,054	2,01,067
1977-78	2,38,419	2,18,343

Notified Area, Ateli

A small town committee was constituted at Ateli in 1949 and in 1956 it was converted into a class III municipality. With the enforcement of the

Haryana Municipal Act, 1973, it was declared notified area and since then its affairs have been looked after by an Administrator appointed by the government. It covers an area of 0.65 square kilometre and serves a population of 1,937 (as per 1971 Census).

The sanitation of the town is looked after by a Sanitary Mate and 11 sweepers. The refuse is removed from the town in 8 wheel barrows. The piped water supply was commissioned in 1962 and in 1978, the per capita supply was 1,500 gallons and there were 84 domestic connections and 25 public stand posts in the town.

Prior to the introduction of electric light in the town in 1960, kerosene lamps were used for street lighting. In 1978, 55 electric bulbs and 4 fluorescent tubes were provided for street lighting.

The table below shows the income and expenditure during 1973-74 to 1977-78 :—

Year	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1973-74	1,18,789	1,18,790
1974-75	1,62,976	1,52,303
1975-76	1,75,315	1,61,835
1976-77	2,97,635	2,39,665
1977-78	2,27,055	2,38,732

TOWN PLANNING

The town planning in the Mahendragarh district is looked after by the Regional Town Planner, Rohtak. The Department of Town and Country Planning has planned an industrial urban estate and industrial workers' housing colony at Dharuhera, an industrial urban estate at Rewari and the development plans for Rewari and Narnaul towns. The industrial urban estate, Dharuhera, occupies an area of 183.8 hectares with varying sizes of industrial plots. The industrial workers' housing colony, Dharuhera, will cover 241 acres. Besides accommodating industrial workers, it will provide shopping centre, tourist and other recreational facilities. The industrial urban estate, Rewari will cover 314 acres. A planned scheme has been framed for Rewari town to accommodate a projected population of 1.10 lakh by 1991 and potential area around the town has been notified to check unplanned and haphazard growth. The plan envisages a radial and grid-iron road system, 9 residential sectors and separate commercial, industrial and recreational zones.

The Narnaul town has been planned as a medium density town to accommodate a projected population of 80 thousand by 1991. The proposed plan conceives a core area known as central business-cum-civil district neighbourhoods and industrial, commercial and recreational zones. In order to preserve the rural character of the town, no development is proposed beyond the railway line in the south. The areas around historical monuments are proposed to be developed for regional recreation. A city tower, proposed on the top of the hillock, will facilitate total view of the town.

PANCHAYATI RAJ-RURAL LOCAL GOVERNMENT

The Punjab Gram Panchayat Act, 1952, with its subsequent amendments, and the Punjab Panchayat Samitis Act, 1961, are the legal basis for the rural local government, popularly called Panchayati Raj. The structure comprises two tiers in Haryana State, a panchayat at the village level and a Panchayat Samiti at the block level. However, these do not constitute a hierarchy but have defined spheres of activity and independent sources of revenue. Previously, there used to be a Zila Parishad at the district level, but the institution was abolished in 1973.

Panchayats.—Generally, there is one panchayat for each village, but in few cases of small villages having a population of less than 500, there is a joint panchayat. A panchayat consists of 5 to 9 members called *panches*. There is at least one Scheduled Caste *panch* and one women *panch*. In 1977-78, there were 566 panchayats in the district and the total membership of these panchayats was 3,326. There were 630 Scheduled Castes *panches* and 566 women *panches*.

Functions.—The main functions of panchayats are rural development with particular reference to increase the agricultural production. It includes agriculture, animal husbandry, health and sanitation, education, social welfare, village public works, sports and recreation. In fact panchayats are supposed to work in almost all spheres which concern the betterment of village community. The details of public utility work done by the panchayats in the district from 1973-74 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Particulars	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
1	2	3	4	5	6
1. School Buildings constructed	33	37	125	61	28
2. Libraries started	25	49	28	65	34
3. Reading rooms	25	23	17	64	10

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1	2	3	4	5	6
4. Number of Panchayats which constructed <i>Panchayat Ghar</i>	19	20	50	69	56
5. Number of Panchayats with radio sets	—	—	261	473	469
6. Children Parks laid out	3	3	6	3	8
7. Number of wells constructed for drinking purposes	24	19	83	16	22
8. Number of Panchayats which constructed drains	7	9	21	18	28
9. Number of latrines	4	10	—	22	6
10. Number of fruit trees planted	466	1,556	4,265	3,585	2,595
11. Number of manure pits dug	2,621	10,743	4,698	9,875	10,680
12. Number of wells constructed for Harijans	15	22	48	34	10

Judicial Powers.—The Panchayats are empowered to try certain minor offences like petty thefts, trespasses, encroachments on public property and public nuisance. The panchayats have also been given powers to try cases under various sections of the Indian Penal Code. They are empowered to impose fines. They are not bound by the provisions of the Indian Evidence Act, 1872 and as such lawyers are not permitted to appear in the proceedings before a panchayat. The Chief Judicial Magistrate hears

appeals against the orders of the panchayats. He is empowered to transfer cases from one panchayat to another.

The panchayats try civil and revenue suits for recovery of movable property or the value of such property; for money or goods due on contract or the price thereof, for compensation for wrongfully taking or injuring movable property and suits mentioned in clauses (j), (k), (i) and (n) of sub section 3 of section 77 of the Punjab Tenancy Act, 1887. The panchayats are under the control of District Judge in civil suits and Collector in revenue suits and they are also appellate authorities. The judicial work done by panchayats during 1973-74 to 1977-78 is given below :—

Year	Number of cases compromised		
	Civil/Revenue	Criminal	Total
1973-74	132	17	149
1974-75	95	11	106
1975-76	370	36	406
1976-77	86	37	123
1977-78	44	6	50

Income.—The panchayats are authorised to levy taxes, duties and fee. The main sources of income are grant-in-aid from the government, income from *shamlat* land, voluntary contributions, 3 per cent of the land holdings tax of the panchayat area, fees and fines. The income and expenditure of panchayats in each block of district during 1973-74 to 1977-78 are given in the Table XI of Appendix.

Panchayat Samitis.—The district has been divided into 9 blocks, each having a Panchayat Samiti. Each Panchayat Samiti has primary, associate, co-opted and ex-officio members. Out of 19 primary members, 16 members are elected by *panches* and *sarpanches*, 2 members by the members of cooperative societies within the block and one member by the members of market committees in the block. If this membership does not include 2 women and 4 persons belonging to Scheduled Castes, the balance is made up by co-option. Every member of the Haryana Legislative Assembly representing the constituency of which the block forms a part, is an associate member. The Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil) having jurisdiction in the block and Block Development and Panchayat Officer are ex-officio members. The ex-officio and associate members do not have the right to vote. The Block Development and Panchayat Officer of the concerned block is the ex-officio executive officer of the Panchayat Samiti. The Chairman and Vice-Chairman

are elected by the primary and co-opted members from amongst themselves for a term of 3 years.

Duties.—The duties of Panchayat Samiti are numerous, being an important agency of the Panchayati Raj. It is the duty of the Panchayat Samiti to provide for and make arrangements for carrying out the requirements of the block in respect of agriculture, animal husbandry and fisheries, health and rural sanitation, communication, social education, co-operation and miscellaneous development works.

Income.—The income of the Panchayat Samiti is derived from a Samiti fund which consists of apportionment made by the government out of the balance of district fund, 7 per cent of the total land holdings tax realised within the area of Panchayat Samiti, taxes, cesses and fees imposed by the Panchayat Samiti, grants, contributions and funds allotted by the government, local bodies and panchayats as well as rents and proceeds accruing from property vested and managed by the Panchayat Samiti. The Samitis are authorised to impose taxes with the prior permission of the government. The government also provides funds whenever any subject is transferred to their control. A portion of the cattle fair income is also transferred to the Samiti. The income and expenditure of the Panchayat Samitis in the district from 1973-74 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Income (Rs.)	Expenditure (Rs.)
1973-74	7,67,809	6,81,878
1974-75	6,30,589	6,74,548
1975-76	7,25,696	8,29,195
1976-77	9,24,441	8,75,176
1977-78	10,60,308	8,57,067

CHAPTER XV

EDUCATION AND CULTURE

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

Prior to the 19th century, there was no regular system of education in any part of the district. The indigenous system of education as prevalent in other parts of the then Haryana was followed here. Some sort of education was imparted in *maktabs*, *pathshalas* and *chatshalas*. The *maktabs* were Persian or Arabic schools where the Koran was learnt or Arabic was taught. These schools were in mosques where mosque-attendant taught them as a religious duty. In *Pathshals*, the education was religious and Brahman boys resorted to them for priestly lore and astrology. *Chatshalas* were *Mahajini* schools where *padha* taught *lande* and accounts to shopkeeper boys generally. The attendance in these schools was not regular. The well-to-do families taught their wards at home by engaging private teachers.

There was only one middle school at Rewari in 1857. To make the education available to the people in the remote corners in the villages away from the tahsil headquarters or towns, the government devised a plan and set up *halkabandi* or circle schools, i.e. one school in every circle (*halka*) comprising ten to 20 villages. Since the *halkabandi* schools catered to the needs mostly of the peasantry and subjects studied here "were closely connected with agricultural pursuits and requirements". These schools were financed jointly by the government and the public¹.

The schools existed at Rewari in 1877-78 are as follows :—

Government Schools	Pupils on roll				Teachers
	Hindu	Muslim	Other	Total	
1. District School, Rewari	112	18	2	132	6
2. Middle Schools, branch to District School, Rewari	69	15	1	85	2
3. 6 Lower School branches to District School, Rewari	291	48	—	339	14

1. Narration of the Proceedings of the Lt. Governor (NWP), No. 2 of the first quarter of 1857; Report on the Popular Education in the NWP for 1859-60, pp. 43-44.

The school at Rewari was made a high school in 1880 and there were 14 primary schools, one each at Dharuhera, Bikaner, Khori, Masani, Turkiawas, Gurawada, Shahjahanpur, Gokalgarh, Dahina, Garhi, Hasanpur, Jatusana, Bharawas and Balwari in 1881-82. Towards the beginning of the 20th century, there were 30 primary schools in Rewari tahsil and a high school at Rewari.

With the opening of government schools, the quality of instruction in the lower schools as compared to that in the indigenous schools improved. The agricultural classes paid the school cess and local rate but did not send their children for instruction. In many of the village schools there was a preponderance of the boys of the trading classes, which paid little towards this support. In any case fees charged from these classes was very small. Very few girls received any education beyond what their parents taught them¹.

In 1870, schools were opened at Narnaul and Kanaud and the teachers of the indigenous schools were taken into state service who taught Persian, the only subject of instruction. The progress of education was very slow as the erstwhile princely states paid little attention towards it. Shri Kishori Lal Sanskrit School was established at Narnaul in 1877.

In 1902, there were schools at Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry. These schools were housed in their own buildings and functioned under the supervision of the Junior Inspector of Schools of Barnala Circle. The direct responsibility for the supervision of the schools vested in the Inspector who visited each school at least twice a year.

In the beginning of the 20th century, there was a school at Narnaul where Arabic was taught. In the above school, the Bagdadi Quida and Al-Quran were taught first and then the Mizan-us-Sarf, Sart-Mir, Nahav-Mir, Qafia and Shafia were taught.

Artisans' boys, such as blacksmiths, carpenters, goldsmiths, tailors, etc. were taught by skilled artisans who were presented with a rupee and some sweets by their apprentices.

Before the regular system of education in the Bawal *nizamat* in 1863 A.D., mensuration was confined, as a hereditary occupation, to a few families called *mirdah* who received a small salary from the Nabha state and dues in grain at each harvest from the villages.

1. F.C. Channing, *Land Revenue Settlement of the Gurgaon District*, 1882, pp. 54-55.

In 1863, a single-teacher school was opened at Bawal. In *samvat* 1939, a Nagri *pandit* was added to the staff of the school and the teaching in Mathematics was also introduced. In 1898 A.D. a Head Master and a second Master were appointed.

The school at Bawal was upgraded to the status of middle standard in 1899 A.D. The primary schools were also opened at Kanti and Kanina in 1899. These schools were open to all castes but the fees were charged from non-agriculturists; the sons of cultivators being exempt.

The district remained backward in the sphere of education till Independence although an Ahir High School was opened at Rewari in twenties of the present century. In 1945, the management of the school opened Ahir college and initiated post-matric education in the district. After Independence and particularly after the formation of Haryana in 1966, the district made rapid strides in education. In 1977-78, there were 572 primary schools, 82 middle schools, 94 high/higher secondary schools, 10 colleges and 8 industrial training institutes/schools/centres.

MEDIUM OF INSTRUCTION

The medium of instruction in the district is Hindi. According to the policy adopted by the State Government in April, 1967, the teaching of Hindi as the first compulsory language and as medium of instruction begins from class 1. English is taught from the 6th class as a second compulsory language. Safeguards have also been provided for linguistic minorities. The teaching of Urdu/Panjabi as an additional subject from the 1st primary class is provided if there are 10 students in a class or 40 in a school at the primary stage or 1/3 of the total number of students in the school at secondary stage, desirous to study this language. But the medium of instruction and the first language even for such school, remains Hindi.

After the creation of Haryana state on November 1, 1966, the whole of the state became a uni-lingual Hindi speaking state. With the passing of the Haryana Official Language Act, 1969, Hindi became the official language of the state. It was introduced in the administration at all levels on January 26, 1969.

EDUCATION OF SCHEDULED CASTE AND OTHER BACKWARD CLASSES

During Pre-Independence period, the members of the Scheduled Castes were forced by the caste-ridden society to keep their wards at home without receiving education. Even their entry to the indigenous

institutions was not allowed. The rulers of erstwhile princely states did not pay any attention to reform their conditions. As compelled by the above circumstances, they put their children to work on odd jobs in order to supplement their meagre income. Thus their children were deprived of all opportunities to get education. Nothing was done for the upliftment of socially and economically downtrodden people.

Generally, the whole area remained backward in the sphere of education even after Independence. In order to ameliorate the educational conditions of the Scheduled Castes/Backward Classes, the government has been persuading them to avail of liberal concessions granted from time to time. The students are specifically awarded scholarships and granted exemption from fees. A facility of reimbursement of examination fees is provided to them.

The number of Scheduled Castes students studying in different schools in the district, during 1977-78, was as under :—

Type of Institution	Number of Scheduled Castes Students		
	Boys	Girls	Total
High/Higher Secondary Schools	5,237	736	5,973
Middle Schools	3,086	758	3,844
Primary Schools	6,999	2,687	9,686
Grand Total :	15,322	4,181	19,503

The total number of collegians belonging to Scheduled Castes as on March 31, 1978, was 583 (574 boys and 9 girls).

Incentives

In order to encourage the boys and girls belonging to poor families towards education, a reduced scale of fee is charged from them. The education is free for all whose family income is less than Rs. 1,000 per annum in the case of boys and less than Rs. 3,000 per annum in the case of girls. Boys whose family income is between Rs. 1,000 and Rs. 3,000 are charged fee at half rates. Boys whose family income exceeds Rs. 3,000 per annum are charged fee at full rates whereas the girls in this category are charged fee at half rates.

The students belonging to Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes, who are studying in 9th, 10th and 11th classes, are given scholarship at the rate of Rs. 8 per mensem under the State Harijan Welfare Scheme, provided the income of their parents/guardians does not exceed Rs. 1,800 per annum. They are also allowed refund of examination fees. Scheduled Castes are exempted from the payment of tuition fee, but the students belonging to other Backward Classes are allowed this concession subject to the above income condition.

Scheduled Castes students are also given assistance under the Government of India Post Matric Scholarship Scheme. This includes refund of examination fee, tuition fee and other compulsory charges. The rate of assistance varies from Rs. 27 to Rs. 75 according to different income slabs.

No tuition fee is charged from the children of serving defence personnel or of defence personnel who have been killed or disabled during national emergency.

Educational Set-up

The District Education Officer, Narnaul, is responsible for the administration and control of all primary, middle and high and higher secondary schools. The control of college education has been vested with the Director Public Instruction (Colleges), Haryana, Chandigarh. The District Education Officer at district level, besides other allied staff, is assisted by a Deputy Education Officer. Either the District Education Officer or the Deputy Education Officer has to be a woman for consultation of matters relating to woman teachers.

General Education

General education is imparted through schools and colleges in the State. The school education is completed in three stages—primary, middle and high/higher.

The course of primary education covers a period of five years. On April 1, 1961, it was made compulsory to cover the maximum children. Since then some improvement was noticed throughout the district. Almost all the primary schools are co-educational. The total number of primary schools in the district in 1977-78 was 572 (540 for boys and 32 for girls). The total number of students on roll during the same period was estimated at 64,341 (42,571 boys and 21,770 girls).

The compulsory and free education at primary level affected the middle school education with positive results. Subsequently the number

of schools and students increased. The total number of middle schools during 1977-78 was 82 and number of students during the same period stood at 27,667(21,235 boys and 6,432 girls).

For a majority of students the high/higher secondary stage has to be a terminal point. It provides a preparatory stage for limited number of students who intend joining higher education.

The total number of high/higher secondary schools with 51,265 students (49,728 boys and 10,537 girls) was 94 on March 31, 1978.

Higher Education

The origin of the post-matric education can be traced to 1945 when Ahir College, Rewari was opened. In 1977-78, there were 10 colleges including 2 teachers training colleges, as mentioned below :

1. Government College, Narnaul
2. Government College, Mahendragarh
3. Rao Birender Singh College of Education, Rewari
4. Ahir College, Rewari
5. Kishanlal Public College, Rewari
6. Rao Bahal Singh College for Women, Rewari¹
7. Satish Public College of Education, Rewari
8. Rastriya Jubilee College, Rewari
9. Janta College, Bawal
10. Sri Krishana College, Kanwali

A brief account of each of these institutions is given as under :—

Government College, Narnaul.—The college was started in 1954. Initially it was started in the building of the Government High School, Narnaul, but in 1956 it was shifted to its newly constructed building.

Affiliated to Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra, the college provides courses in science, commerce and humanities upto degree level and post graduate course in Geography and Geology.

The library of the college is stocked with 35,209 books and it has open shelf system. It subscribes to 53 journals and periodicals.

1. Rao Bahal Singh College for women, Rewari was closed down in 1977-78.

In 1977-78, there were 2,055 students including 109 girls on its roll. It had 73 members on its teaching staff.

Government College, Mahendragarh.—Originally started in 1966 as a private institution under the name of the Mahendragarh Degree College, it was taken over by the government in 1971.

Affiliated to Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, the college provides courses in Science, Commerce and Humanities upto degree level.

The college library contains 21,314 books. A book bank was also started with the help of University Grants Commission. The college magazine, *Maru Madhvi*, is also published once a year.

In 1975-76, there were 1,053 students which declined to 817 in 1977-78. It had 43 members on its teaching staff.

Rao Birender Singh College of Education, Rewari.—Initially the college was started as a Department of Education attached to Ahir College, Rewari, in 1953. But in 1959, it was established as an independent institution. It is affiliated to the Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak and provides degree and post-graduate courses in education. It also provides Junior Basic Teachers Training and Nursery Teachers Training Courses.

The college library contains 14,678 books. A book bank has also been set up to provide facilities of giving free books to the poor students. It has three hostels, two for boys and one for girls. It brings out a magazine, *The Modern Education*, annually.

In 1977-78, there were 342 students on its roll. It had 16 members on its teaching staff.

Ahir College, Rewari.—It is the oldest institution of the district and was opened in 1945 by Ahir Education Board.

The college is affiliated to Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak and provides courses in Science, Commerce and Humanities upto degree level.

It is equipped with laboratories for Science and Geography, well stocked library and a reading room. There is a book bank for the needy students. The institution has its own hostel. It publishes its magazine, *The Phoenix*, annually.

The number of students on the roll during 1977-78, was 1,151. It had 34 members on its teaching staff.

Kishan Lal Public College, Rewari.—The college was founded in July, 1964. Housed in a two-storeyed building consisting of several blocks, it has an open-air theatre, vast play grounds, spacious lawns, well-equipped laboratories, botanical and zoological museums and a library with a stock of 18,210 books.

The college imparts instruction upto degree level in the faculties of Humanities, Science and Commerce and is affiliated to the Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak. Training in N.C.C. and N.S.S. is also imparted to the students. A number of literary and cultural functions are arranged to inculcate the spirit of public speaking and to encourage healthy pursuits among the students.

The magazine '*Jigyasa*' is published once a year. The number of students on its roll in 1977-78 was 1,600. It had 47 members on its teaching staff.

Satish Public College of Education, Rewari.—The college was established in July, 1969. It is situated on Sohna-Delhi road. It is affiliated to Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak and provides course in education upto degree level. It also provides Nursery Teachers' Training, Art and Crafts Teachers' Training and Junior Basic Training (Home Craft) courses.

The college has a library containing 6,500 books. It subscribes to more than 47 journals and periodicals. There is also a book bank for the needy and deserving students. It publishes a magazine, *Satish Patrika*, annually.

The total number of students on roll during 1977-78, was 150 (93 boys and 57 girls). The Teachers' Training Course (Art and Crafts) had 45 students during 1976-78. There were 41 students of the J.B.T. (Home Crafts) during the session of 1976-78.

Rastriya Jubilee College, Rewari.—It was established in 1972 by the Rastriya Education Board, Rewari. It is affiliated to M.D. University, Rohtak and provides courses in Arts upto degree level.

There were 85 students in 1978 on its roll. It had 9 members on its teaching staff.

Janta College, Bawal.¹—The college was established in 1974. Affiliated to the Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak, it provides courses in Arts upto degree level.

1. The college was taken over by the government in January, 1980.

There were 192 (145 boys and 47 girls) students on roll in 1977-78. It had 9 members on its teaching staff.

Sri Krishana College, Kanwali.—The college was established in 1967. It is affiliated to Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak and provides courses in Arts and Commerce upto degree level. It had 203 students (191 boys and 12 girls) on roll in 1977-78. It had 9 members on its teaching staff. It has a library containing 2,302 books.

Oriental College.—There is only one institution for the teaching of Sanskrit, viz. Shri Kishori Lal Sanskrit Mahavidyalya, Narnaul. Initially, it was established as a school in 1877 but in 1937, it was raised to college level. The college is housed in its own building having hostel and library. It provides courses in *Pragya* (Proficiency in Sanskrit), *Visharad* (Higher Proficiency in Sanskrit), *Shastri* (Honours in Sanskrit) and *Prabhakar* (Honours in Hindi) and is affiliated to Maharishi Dayanand University, Rohtak. The education is free and scholarships to all students at varying rates are awarded. Besides, the college provides courses in Sanskrit for other institutions and Universities. In 1977-78, there were 202 students (including 41 girls) on roll.

TECHNICAL EDUCATION AND INDUSTRIAL TRAINING

There is no engineering institute in the district. However, industrial training is provided to men and women with a view to ensuring a steady flow of skilled workers in different trades. Training is provided in engineering and non-engineering trades. Initially an industrial school was opened for girls at Narnaul in 1955. Later industrial training institutes were opened at Mahendragarh and Narnaul in 1962 and 1963 respectively. In 1964, government industrial schools for girls were opened at Mahendragarh and Rewari. In 1974, teachers' training courses for girls in cutting and tailoring and embroidery and needle work were added in Government Industrial School, Narnaul and a Rural Artisan Training Centre was opened at Mahendragarh.

Training in industrial training institutes is provided in various crafts for the award of National Trade Certificate of All India Council of Vocational Training, New Delhi. Incentives are provided by way of award of stipend of Rs. 25 per mensem per student on poverty cum merit basis to one-third of the students on roll in each institution. Trainees belonging to Scheduled Castes are given a stipend of Rs. 45 per mensem. Besides technical training, medical aid, workshop clothes and hostel accommodation are provided free to all trainees. The training programme ranges from one year to two years.

The details of institutions alongwith the year of establishment and

trades or crafts provided as in 1978 are given below :

S. No.	Name of the Institution	Year of establishment	Trades/ Crafts provided	Duration of course
1	2	3	4	5
1.	Industrial Training Institute, Mahendragarh	1962	Turner, Fitter, Motor Mechanic, Machinist, Electrician, Radio and TV Mechanic	2 years
			Sheet Metal Moulder, Welder, Carpenter, Stenography (Hindi), Cutting and Tailoring	1 Year
2.	Industrial Training Institute, Narnaul	1963	Machinist, Fitter, Electrician, Turner, Wireman, Radio & TV Mechanic, Draftsman (Civil)	2 Years
			Moulder Welder, Sheet Metal, Carpenter, Stenography (Hindi), Cutting & Tailoring and Embroidery	1 Year

1	2	3	4	5
3.	Government Industrial School for Girls, Narnaul	1955	Cutting & Tailoring, Embroidery and Needle work & Teachers' Training Course in Cutting and Tailoring or Embroidery and Needle work	1 Year
4.	Government Industrial School for Girls, Rewari	1964	Cutting and Tailoring & Embroidery and Needle work	1 Year
5.	Government Industrial School for Girls, Mahendragarh	1964	Cutting and Tailoring and Embroidery and Needle work	1 Year
6.	Rural Artisan Training Centre, Mahendragarh	1974	Weaving, Carpentry, General Mechanic and Wireman	1 Year

Besides, the government had recognised a few private institutions for providing training in industrial trades to girls. The training in footwear and hide and flaying is also provided in Government Footwear Institute, Rewari and Government Hide and Flaying and Utilisation of Carcass Centre, Rewari.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION

Physical education is mainly a part of general education. Due attention is paid towards games, sports, tournaments and other extra-curricular activities. Physical education provides foundation for emotional balance and good social adjustment to the young children.

In colleges, a D.P.E. (Director, Physical Education) and in high and higher secondary schools, a P.T.I. (Physical Training Instructor) look after the physical education. In the middle or primary schools, a few teachers are detailed for this work. The Assistant Education Officer for physical training supervises and guides the physical education in schools.

Promotion of sports and games.—The development of body is as important as the development of mind. The sports activities include panchayat tournaments at the block and district levels, school tournaments at the zone and district levels and open tournaments at the district level. The colleges organise inter-college and University tournaments.

Representative teams from different panchayats take part in the block tournaments and then the block teams compete further at district level. The Deputy Commissioner is overall incharge for the management and control of such sports in the district.

The school tournaments are controlled by a District School Tournaments Committee under the chairmanship of the District Education Officer. The rural sports centres promote sports at the following places :

Sr. No.	Name of Institution	Game
1.	Government High School, Seehma	Volley-Ball and Athletics
2.	Government High School, Notana	Volley-Ball and Athletics
3.	Government High School, Akbarpur	Do
4.	Government High School, Bariawas	Do
5.	Government High School, Mandola	Do
6.	Government High School, Khori	Do
7.	Government High School, Pali	Do
8.	Government High School, Krishan Nagar	Do
9.	Government High School, Dongra Ahir	Football and Athletics
10.	Government High School, Bawal	Do

1	2	3
11.	Government High School, Nangal Chaudhry	Football & Athletics
12.	Government High School, Sulpha	Do
13.	Government High School, Nikhri	Do
14.	Government High School, Koriawas	Hockey & Athletics
15.	Government High School, Kanwali	Do
16.	Government High School, Bachhod	Basketball & Athletics
17.	Government High School, Gokalpur-Kumbhawas	Do
18.	Government Middle School, Nangal Pathani	Do

There are various sports associations which organise open tournaments for different games. The coaching camps are also organised to train young sportsmen with modern techniques by the expert coaches of the Sports Department. For the promotion of sports in the district, there is a District Sports Officer who controls the sports activities including the rural sports centres and coaches throughout the district. The following coaching centres have been established in the district for promotion of sports :

S.No.	Name of the Game/Sport	Place
1.	Athletic	Narnaul
2.	Yoga	Do
3.	Hockey	Rewari
4.	Hockey	Kanwali
5.	Basketball	Nangal Pathani
6.	Football	Krishan Nagar
7.	Volleyball	Notana
8.	Volleyball	Motla Kalan
9.	Wrestling	Mahendragarh

Government encourages the outstanding players by giving them incentives in the form of cash awards and sports scholarships. Sports Grading Certificates are also issued to enable the outstanding sportsmen and sportswomen to get admission in the medical and technical institutions in the state.

In addition to the sports, the items taught to the students in the schools are : drill marching, physical exercises, lazium, games and relays, track and field events, gymnastics, national songs, *tippri* and *yoga*.

NATIONAL CADET CORPS

The N.C.C. (National Cadet Corps) was introduced in 1948-49 as a part of educational programme. In 1963, it was made compulsory for all able-bodied under-graduate boy students at college level. In 1969, two other programmes, namely, N.S.S. (National Service Scheme) and Sports were introduced as alternative to N.C.C. which is no longer compulsory. N.C.C. training is imparted regularly during the academic session and through outdoor camps.

In 1978, 747 boys in senior division and 1,100 boys in junior division had taken up N.C.C. in different institutions of the district.

NATIONAL SERVICE SCHEME

National Service Scheme (N.S.S.) was introduced in the educational programme of the country in 1969. The scheme was adopted in colleges of Haryana in the year 1970-71. It aims at educating the students through community service. It enriches the students' personality and deepens their understanding of the social environment in which they live. It helps the students to develop an awareness and knowledge of the social reality and to have a concern for the well being of the community.

Under the scheme, the students undertake activities designed to tackle social problems and promote social welfare. Its activities are multifarious and include adult education, tree plantations, family and child care, rural cleanliness, blood donation, etc. N.S.S. volunteers also render valuable help at the time of natural calamities like floods and famines. N.S.S. training is imparted regularly during the academic sessions and through outdoor camps.

LIBRARIES

During the erstwhile States of Patiala, Nabha and Jind, there was little spread of education in the areas now comprising Mahendragarh district. Only the Patiala State had its State Library at Patiala. Libraries in the towns of this district were quite unknown. Some schools had small libraries which

contained story books and some books of courses and these were utilized by the teachers and the students.

After the formation of PEPSU (Patiala and East Punjab States Union), the government thought of opening some village libraries through its Development Department. But its efforts could not make much headway due to paucity of funds. However, with the merger of Pepsu with the State of Punjab in 1956, the Punjab Government started making allocations to such libraries which had their own buildings, furniture and whose accounts were duly audited by Chartered Accountants. Such libraries were mostly maintained by the Municipalities.

With the opening of government and private colleges at Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari, the educational institutions started their own college libraries but even then the public libraries were missing. Some charitable institutions which claimed to have opened libraries were actually running small reading rooms where only daily papers and some periodicals were provided to the visitors.

The libraries functioning in the district up to March 31, 1978 are detailed below :

Jain Library, Narnaul.—Set up in 1952, it contains mostly religious books pertaining to Jain religion. There are 583 books which include a hand written script of nearly 100 years old. The approximate value of these books is nearly Rs. 3,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies and periodicals for general reading. It is open to general public and about 45 persons visit this library daily.

Jain Library, Rewari.—Started in 1929, it has 5,100 books mainly on Jainism. The total value of these books is approximately Rs. 30,365. It subscribes to dailies/periodicals for general reading. About 250 to 300 persons visit the library daily.

Jain Library, Mahendragarh.—It was set up in 1935. It contains about 3,000 books valuing approximately Rs. 3,000. It is open to general public and about 30 persons visit the library daily. It subscribes to dailies/periodicals for general reading.

Bal Charitra Nirman Sabha Library, Mahendragarh.—It was set up in 1961 by a private organisation. It has about 5,000 books valuing approximately Rs. 25,000. It subscribes to dailies/periodicals for general reading. It is open to general public and about 50 persons visit the library daily.

Nav Yuvak Library, Rewari.—It was established in 1971. It has about 2,000 books valuing approximately Rs. 7,000. It subscribes to dailies

periodicals for general reading. It is open to public and 20 to 30 persons visit it daily.

Janta Library, Bawal.—It was started in 1952 by a private organisation. It has 5,953 books valuing approximately Rs. 15,000. It subscribes to dailies/periodicals for general reading. It is open to general public and about 40 to 50 persons visit it daily.

Aggarwal Library, Rewari.—Set up in 1942, it is run by a private organisation. It has 4,500 books valuing approximately Rs. 14,000. It subscribes to dailies/periodicals for general reading. About 70 persons visit the library daily.

Maa Bharti Library, Kanina.—It has been running under the auspices of the Sanskrit Vikas Parishad at Kanina since 1973, with the help of public support. It has about 1,200 books valuing approximately Rs. 4,000.

Municipal Library, Narnaul.—Set up in 1954, it is situated in the heart of the town at Manak Chowk. It has 4,101 books on different subjects valuing approximately Rs. 24,606. The Administrator of the municipality looks after its functioning. It subscribes to a number of dailies and periodicals for general reading. About 60 persons visit the library daily.

Municipal Library, Ateli.—Set up in 1956, it is run by the Municipal Committee, Ateli. It has about 1,548 books of all kinds and their estimated cost is Rs. 10,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for general reading. About 10 to 15 persons visit the library daily.

Municipal Library, Rewari.—It was established by the Municipal Committee, Rewari, in 1952 and is located in the Town Hall, Rewari. It has about 4,000 books on different subjects and their estimated cost is Rs. 8,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for general reading. The Administrator of the municipality looks after its functioning. About 25 to 30 persons visit the library daily.

Municipal Library, Bawal.—The Municipal Committee, Bawal, with the assistance of Central Library Committee, Haryana established this library in 1968. It has about 1,185 books valuing approximately Rs. 7,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for general reading. About 25 to 30 persons visit this library daily.

Municipal Library, Mahendragarh.—It was established in 1953 and has about 7,000 books. The estimated cost of these books is Rs 35,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for general reading and about 50 persons visit it daily.

Municipal Library, Kanina.—It was set up in 1973. It is a small library containing about 500 books valuing approximately Rs. 1,500. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for public reading.

District Library, Narnaul.—It was set up in 1962 and is housed in Zila Parishad Hall near Bus Stand, Narnaul. It has 27,393 books of all kinds valuing approximately at Rs. 2,70,000. It subscribes to a number of dailies/periodicals for public reading. About 100 persons visit the library daily.

Bar Library, Narnaul.—The library was set up in 1925 for members of the Bar Association. A full fledged librarian, appointed by the Bar, looks after its working. There are 130 members of the Bar who subscribe Rs. 5 per month. It has A.I.R. sets from the year 1923 to 1978. It has about 650 books consisting of A.I.Rs, Digest, etc. valuing approximately Rs. 20,000. A member of the Bar can take a book for 10 paise for the first day and 5 paise for the subsequent days up to ten days. No newspaper/periodical is being subscribed at present. It is worth mentioning that it contains all PEPSU /Joint Punjab Gazetteers.

Bar Library, Rewari.—It was set up by the Bar in 1973. It has about 350 books valuing approximately Rs. 8,000. It subscribes to two dailies, viz. The Tribune and the Hindustan Times only. There are 110 members of the library.

Bar Library, Mahendragarh.—It was set up in 1977. It has about 325 books on law valuing approximately at Rs. 10,000. Every member can take the book free of charge.

CULTURE

The district is known to have asharams of three ancient great sages; Chyavana on Dhosi hills, of Udalak at Siana (Mahendragarh tahsil) and of Pipplad at Bhagot (Mahendragarh tahsil). The recovery of inscriptions and fragmentary sculptural remains from Gurawada (Rewari tahsil) and Narnaul indicate that some cultural activity was initiated in the region roughly during the period of about four centuries, i.e. from 9th to 12th century.

No cultural or literary details are available for the ancient or early medieval period. In the 16th century, Vir Bhan, the founder of Satnami sect at Narnaul, contributed a lot to the Hindi literature. Born in 1543 at Bijesar, a small village near Narnaul, the saint-poet composed a large number of verses which are now found in his *pothi*, popularly known as *Granth Sahib*. His brother, Jagjiwan, was also a good scholar and his *banis* are also of literary value. In the 17th century, Khadag Sen of the district authored several works, of which *Trilokadarpana* which described three worlds (*lokes*) was very famous. The copies of above works are available in the Digambar Jain Panchayat Mandir and the temple of Adinathji (Mujjafarnagar-U.P.).

Achalkirti, a Jain Acharya of Narnaul also wrote many books. Copies of *Vishapahara* written by him in verse are available at the office of Jain Sabha, Jaipur and Shri Jain temple, district Mainpuri (U.P.). Mir Zafar Zatal (1659-1713) of Narnaul, a great humourist of the court of Aurangzeb was an eminent Urdu Scholar. He wrote many good poems which have been recently published from Lucknow. Zatal's contemporary and 'spiritual brother' Abduljabil 'Atal', also from Narnaul, was an equally famous humourist. Unfortunately, none of his works is available, although his stray verses are found in several works of the 18th century. During 18th century Nityanand, an ascetic of Narnaul made substantial contribution to the *Nirguna* literature by his *Guru Grantha* and *Satya-Siddhanta Priksha*. Both these works of Nityanand are published. Lal Chand Jain of Rewari was also a great scholar of the period. He wrote *Sammed Shikhar Mahatmya*, in praise of the place where 20 Jain-Tirthankaras got nirvan. A copy of manuscript of the above book written by him in *samvat* 1895 is available at Jain temple (Tairapanthi) at Nanwa (Bundi-Rajasthan); while another copy of manuscript written by him in *samvat* 1890, is in a good condition at Shri Digambar Jain Panchayati temple, Abupura (Mujjafarnagar). A Haryanvi poet *Dedhraj* of *Nangipanth* was born at Dharso (Narnaul tahsil) in 1771. He was a social reformer who preached against social evils through simple verses in Ahirwati dialect. His *banis* are found in published form in *Dedhraj Ke Banioki Pothi*. He is said to have written other three works, too, but these are not traceable so far.

In addition to the above poets, the poet Umed Singh of Rewari and Pandit Sukhi Ram of village Siana contributed a lot to the Hindi literature.

The colleges and other educational institutions lay emphasis on cultural pursuits and organise cultural functions. Some of these institutions have introduced music and dance as a regular discipline while others have cultural societies for promotion of fine arts, dance, drama, music, etc.

In addition to the above points, the attributes of traditional culture are as follows :—

1. The outlook of the people is other-worldly. People have faith in the doctrine of *Karma*. They are of the view that good deeds in this life will lead to salvation from the cycle of birth and death.
2. The people are highly fatalist. They believe in the inevitability of fate. They attribute their miseries and failures to fate.
3. The hold of superstitions is very strong. The diseases are generally attributed to evil spirits and witchcraft. They believe in cure by magicians and those having supernatural powers.

CHAPTER XVI

MEDICAL AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

INDIGENOUS SYSTEM OF MEDICINE

Prior to the introduction of allopathic system of medicine, people of this area relied upon the *ayurvedic* and *unani* systems. Both the systems were popular among the masses during the middle of nineteenth century as these were cheap and readily available. The *ayurvedic* system was practised by Hindu *vaid*s who generally belonged to priestly class of Brahmans and the *unani* system was practised by the Muslim *hakims*. The *vaid*s were kept mostly at the charitable and religious institutions supported by the rich persons. However, there were other Dadu Panthi *Vaid*s of Narnaul who did not run regular dispensaries but they generally examined the patients at their homes. Likewise the Muslim *hakims* were also available either at the mosque or at their homes.

The rulers of Patiala and Nabha States also encouraged these indigenous systems. They occasionally donated to the religious and medical institutions which kept these systems alive. The following extract of an old gazetteer proves the existence of *Unani* system in the Bawal *nizamat* :—

“Formerly the state possessed no hospitals but state *hakims* were entertained and they used to treat the sick, medicines being given gratis from the State *lassi-khana*, if they were not obtainable from the *bazars*. In 1880, Unani dispensaries were established at the Capital and the headquarters of each *nizamat*, each having a *hakim*, an *attar* or compounder and a *Jarrah* or blood-letter. Medicines were given free and patients were sometimes given food also¹.”

With their superstitious habits the people patronized the village *siyanas* for various remedial measures and cure of diseases. They visited deities for cure of their illness. The magicians were called to recite mantras to remove the spirits. Certain diseases like small-pox were considered to be done to the wrath of god/goddess. The temple of Bhaironji at Basduda in Rewari tahsil drew a large gathering of persons with a faith of having remedy for their various diseases and problems. Some villages were known all over the area for their masseurs or massagists and bone-setters for successful curing the dislocation and fracture of bones.

1. *Phulkian States Gazetteer-Patiala, Jind and Nabha—1904*, p. 381.

These indigenous systems of medicine which were cheap and easily available in rural area were patronized by the people. The allopathic system of medicine was introduced during the British rule. This system was based on scientific lines and vast research conducted in the western countries. The British patronized this system and the rulers of erstwhile princely States followed suit. Towards the close of 19th century Allopathic dispensaries were opened at Narnaul, Rewari¹, Mahendragarh, Bawal, Kanti and Kanina. The dispensaries at Narnaul and Rewari were under Assistant Surgeons whereas the Hospital Assistant looked after other dispensaries.

The medical facilities were extended to the rural areas also. Dispensaries were opened at the following places :—

S.No.	Dispensaries	Year
1.	Dharuhera	September 14, 1922
2.	Jatusana	April 22, 1923
3.	Meerpur	May 12, 1923
4.	Khole	December 1, 1925
5.	Gurawada	January 13, 1928

There was a modernised and well-equipped hospital at Rewari which was started by Sir Shadi Lal, the first Indian Chief Judge of the Lahore High Court, in 1941. The main object in opening this hospital was to give medical aid to women. It was, however, taken over by the government in about 1950-51.

After Independence, the national government was much concerned about extending medical and health services to the people. Medical institutions on modern lines were opened and provided with necessary equipment and other facilities.

The government realised that the indigenous systems of medicine were favoured by the people, particularly the rural people. Keeping this in view, the Punjab Government in 1953-54 started a programme of opening *ayurvedic* dispensaries in the district. These dispensaries were opened on the recommendations of the district authorities. Such institutions at first were housed in the accommodation provided by the village panchayats. The Directorate of Ayurveda was established in November, 1956 and thereby the government encouraged the indigenous system of medicine by affording facilities for its promotion and propagation.

1. In February, 1903, the S.P.G. Mission opened a hospital for women at Rewari but it had to be closed in 1908 owing to the death of the lady doctor.

Due to the re-organisation of the district in 1972, 11 medical institutions, viz. 3 hospitals (Civil Hospital, Sir Shadi Lal Maternity Hospital and Railway Hospital, Rewari); 3 Primary health centres (at Bawal, Guraora and Khole) and 5 dispensaries (at Jatusana, Dharuhera, Meerpur, Dahina, Zainabad and E.S.I. Dispensary, Rewari), were included in the Mahendragarh district.

In 1978, there were 31 Allopathic institutions, 23 *ayurvedic* dispensaries and 2 *unani* dispensaries located in various parts of the district. With the increasing medical aid and availability of life-saving drugs most of the fatal diseases now no longer remain sources of fear. Consequently, mortality has decreased considerably. The hospitals with the number of beds and doctors are given in Table XII. of Appendix.

MEDICAL AND HEALTH SERVICES

Previously medical services were divided into two wings, viz. medical and health. The District Medical Officer was responsible for the functioning of hospitals and dispensaries in a district. The District Medical and Health Officer was in charge of the health wing and was responsible for sanitation, disease prevention and health promotion services in the district. In April, 1964, these two wings were merged and the Chief Medical Officer was made in charge of both the medical and health services. In 1978, he was assisted by two Deputy Chief Medical Officers, District Family Welfare Officer, District Malaria Officer and District Tuberculosis Officer. At block level, Block Medical Officers look after various health services and primary health centres. The civil hospitals at Narnaul and Rewari are under Senior Medical Officers whereas other hospitals and dispensaries function under Medical Officers. Likewise, each Ayurvedic and Unani dispensary is under a *Vaid* or *Hakim*. All Medical Officers and *Vaids* or *Hakims* work under overall supervision of the Chief Medical Officer. Medical service is essentially a hospital organisation for medical relief to the public. This organisation embraces all Allopathic, Ayurvedic and Unani institutions. The important institutions are described below :—

Civil Hospital, Narnaul.—It was a dispensary in 1904 under the charge of an Assistant Surgeon. A female ward was added to it in 1930. It was converted into a 42-bed hospital in 1955 and was later upgraded to a 100-bed hospital.

It has departments of medicine, surgery, ophthalmology, ENT, dentistry and provides facilities of radiology and clinical laboratory.

In 1978, it had 8 doctors and 25 members of auxiliary staff. The number of indoor patients and outdoor patients was 42,667 and 1,52,409 respectively.

Civil Hospital, Mahendragarh.—It was started as a dispensary under the charge of Hospital Assistant towards the close of 18th century. In 1973, this hospital and Smt. Jai Devi Modi Female Hospital were combined and the bed strength was increased from 8 to 25 (13 for male and 12 for female). It provides facilities of x-ray and clinical laboratory. In 1978, there were 2 doctors and 8 members of auxiliary staff. The number of indoor and outdoor patients was 8,069 and 85,367 respectively.

Civil Hospital, Rewari.—Started as a dispensary in 1874-75, it was converted into a hospital in 1924. A maternity hospital viz. Sir Shadilal Maternity Hospital, started in 1941 was merged with the hospital in 1974.

The hospital has the departments of medicine, surgery, gynaecology and dentistry. It is 50 bedded (35 for male and 15 for female) hospital with x-ray and laboratory facilities.

In 1978, there were 4 doctors and other members of auxiliary staff. The number of indoor and outdoor patients was 15,992 and 1,16,616, respectively.

Railway Hospital, Rewari.—It was started by Railways in 1924. It is 20 bedded (8 for male and 12 for female) hospital and provides facilities of x-ray and clinical laboratory. It is controlled by Divisional Medical Officer, Railways, Bikaner. The hospital is manned by 5 doctors and other members of auxiliary staff.

In 1978, 1,18,433 outdoor and 658 indoor patients were treated at the hospital.

T.B. Clinic, Narnaul.—The clinic was set-up in 1959. It remained a part of the Civil Hospital, Narnaul upto 1962, when it was shifted to its own building. It is a 16 bedded (10 for male and 6 for female) clinic and provides facilities of x-ray and clinical laboratory. In 1978, it had 2 doctors and other members of auxiliary staff. The number of indoor and outdoor patients was 314 and 3,130 respectively.

Diseases Common to the District

The common diseases which occur in the district are gastro-enteric and typhoid group of fevers, chest-infection, tuberculosis, malaria and worm infection. Epidemic diseases, viz. cholera, plague and small-pox are three notifiable diseases under the Epidemic Diseases Act, 1897. Of these plague and small-pox were eradicated. The incidence of cholera is dependent largely on the chance of importation of infection and laxity of preventive measures to check them. However, the cholera cases are negligible. Only one case of cholera was reported in 1972 and during 1974, 370 cases of cholera were

detected and out of them ten deaths were reported. However, the disease is under control due to improvement in the sanitation, provision of safe drinking water, strict vigilance and anti-cholera measures at the time of fairs.

No case of plague was reported in the district after 1956. However, small-pox which was most contagious and dreadful disease used to occur in an epidemic form in the district and many people were disfigured, lost their eyes and other organs or even lost their life. In the beginning of the 20th century, the vaccination which is the only check for control and prevention of the disease, was not compulsory. In 1962, a Small-Pox Eradication Programme was launched and thereafter all new born babies were vaccinated and 80 per cent of the total population of the district was revaccinated. The target of primary vaccination was raised to 100 per cent in 1965 and this brought down the incidence of disease. Under the National Small Pox Eradication Programme, supervisors and vaccinators were posted in all municipalities and primary health centres. These special measures eradicated the disease and no case of small-pox was reported in the district after 1974.

Malaria.—Malaria in the past was responsible for a very heavy toll of life. As the village reporting agencies were not qualified to distinguish between malaria or other fevers, no reliable figures of death due to malaria are available. In 1953, National Malaria Control Programme was initiated, later in 1958, it was redesignated as the National Malaria Eradication Programme. The object originally was to curb malaria menace to such an extent that it may not cause any set back in economic and social development of the country. The insecticidal spray on mass basis in the first phase, known as attack phase, gave encouraging results and the incidence was controlled to the desired level. In 1958, the scope of the campaign was enlarged to ensure eradication of the disease from the community. Besides the insecticidal spray in every house, the fever cases were screened by basic health workers during fortnightly house to house visits. The positive cases of malaria were given radical treatment for five days. As a result of these intensive activities, malaria was effectively controlled and curbed by 1963.

A Malaria Unit was established in 1959 to look after the control of malaria in Mahendragarh, Gurgaon and Hisar districts. However, in 1972, the entire area of the district was taken as an independent unit.

Of late, however, the mosquitoes responsible for transmission of malaria have developed resistance against insecticides, and there has been a recurrence of malaria cases. The yearwise incidence of malaria during 1975

to 1978 is given below :—

Year	Malaria Cases Detected
1975	28,752
1976	40,936
1977	27,294
1978	20,093

From 1977, the Government of India launched a modified plan and operation for the control of malaria which included a spray, drug distribution through panchayats, establishment of malaria clinics in all civil hospitals and primary health centres and strengthening of organisational set-up of Malaria Eradication Programme. At the block level, the responsibility for the implementation of malaria programme has been entrusted to the Block Medical Officer.

Tuberculosis.—This is common in the district and poses a major health problem. It has been persisting due to spread of infection and less resistance among the people. Since the cure of tuberculosis requires a sufficiently long time, domiciliary treatment is carried on in the district. After diagnosis, medicines are prescribed and necessary precautions are explained to them so that they may continue their treatment while staying at home.

The National Tuberculosis Control Programme was started in 1951. T.B. Clinic sanctioned in 1959 was the part of the Civil Hospital, Narnaul but later in 1962 the T.B. clinic was shifted in its own building with all the facilities. Besides diagnosis and treatment facilities have been provided in each primary health centre. A B.C.G. vaccination team was deputed in the district in 1965 and it is functioning effectively and all persons below 20 years of age are given B.C.G. vaccination.

The surveys to determine the incidence of tuberculosis in the district were carried out in Kutubpur, Jatwas villages in 1975 and Harijan bastis of Narnaul in 1977. The population of 7,703 was covered under the survey and 213 cases were referred for X-ray and sputum examination and 13 cases of tuberculosis were found.

Trachoma.—It is a common eye disease in the district, specially amongst children under 10 years of age. Untreated trachoma, sometimes leads to serious disability of the eye and even leads to blindness. The National Trachoma Eradication Programme was started in the district and free medicines are supplied to the persons suffering from it.

Gastro-enteric Diseases.—The most common infectious diseases are typhoid and enteric group of fevers, dysentery, diarrhoea and diseases of 5 F's—flies, fingers, faeces, fomites and food. These diseases are kept under control by organised preventive measures, i.e. supply of safe drinking water, regular disinfection of drinking water and general sanitation measures.

Vital Statistics

Due to concerted efforts of the Health Department, incidence of diseases has been lessened. The diseases like plague, cholera and small-pox have been almost eradicated. The following table shows births and deaths during the period from 1974 to 1977 :—

Year	Births			Deaths		
	Males	Females	Total	Males	Females	Total
1974	14,091	11,647	25,738	4,966	4,513	9,479
1975	13,637	11,299	24,936	4,387	3,618	8,005
1976	13,064	10,350	23,414	4,352	3,568	7,920
1977	13,266	10,523	23,789	5,379	4,346	9,725

The number of births in the district decreased from 25,738 in 1974 to 23,414 in 1976 which again slightly increased to 23,789 in 1977. It is significant that the number of birth of females during the period under review has always been lower as compared to the males. Similarly, the number of deaths decreased from 9,479 in 1974 to 7,920 in 1976 and it again increased to 9,725 in 1977.

General Standard of Health.—Because of the dry climate, outdoor habits of the people and the absence of congestion in towns, the district generally remains free from epidemics. So the standard of health in general is good.

Preventive Measures to Promote Public Health

The modern concept of good health lays greater emphasis on prevention of diseases and this necessitates various kinds of measures. The younger generation must be given health education which is perhaps the most important activity for effective preventive measures. Health education is equally necessary for older persons. Likewise, family welfare and maternity welfare require greatest attention if the problem of over-population has to be solved. It is equally important to take suitable

measures to prevent adulteration of food, promote desirable knowledge and practice of nutritive articles of food, make supply of clean and safe drinking water possible even for those living in rural areas and to take other such steps as will improve environmental hygiene.

School health services.—Before 1962, school health services in the district were practically non-existent. An urban school health clinic was started at Narnaul in 1962, on the recommendations of School Health Committee, constituted by the Government of India in 1960. A Medical Officer attended to this work.

School health services were re-organised in 1967 after the formation of Haryana. A post of District School Medical Officer was created in 1967. His job was to organise effective health services in both rural and urban areas of the district.

The school health services in the urban areas are provided by the District School Medical Officer while in the rural areas, this work is looked after by primary health centres. Under the School Health Services Programme, periodic examination of the students are arranged in the school itself. Cases requiring specialised treatment are referred to hospitals. The school teachers are also trained in first-aid for treatment of minor ailments of the school children on the spot. Special arrangements are made for giving immunization to the children against small-pox, B.C.G., diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. Health education is imparted to school children regarding personal hygiene and environmental sanitation. The District School Medical Officer/Block Medical Officers/Public Health Nurse visit the schools from time to time.

The following table shows the work done under the School Health Programme since 1971 :—

Sr.No.	Type of work done	Year						
		1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
1.	Number of schools visited by District School Medical Officer/Block Medical Officers	148	212	322	306	122	144	—

	1971	1972	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977
2. Number of children who attended school health clinics	2,607	2,696	5,279	7,985	13,890	1,299	849
3. Number of children given detailed physical examination	1,629	2,280	4,102	7,492	12,511	6,763	11,314
4. Number of children referred after medical check-up	63	402	188	127	57	—	—
5. Number of teachers trained in school health work	70	49	18	—	—	30	—

General Health Education.—The aim of health education programme is to provide integrated curative and preventive health services for betterment of the health of the people in general. Proper health education is the main pre-requisite for the success of all health programmes. The health education work is carried out by the medical and para-medical staff of the Health Department by holding group meetings.

At the block level, the Block Extension Educator under the guidance and supervision of Block Medical Officer and District Mass Education and Information Officer organises mass education work in the block. He is assisted in this work by the para-medical staff of the primary health centres.

For successful implementation of the health education programmes, three dimensional approaches, viz. the mass approach, the group approach and the individual approach are followed. To create awareness among the people in this regard, modern mass communication media are employed. These include film shows, dramas and cultural programmes. In addition to the above, *bhajan* parties, puppet shows and visual publicity through wall paintings, bus boards, cinema slides, banners, mass meetings and declamation contests, etc. are employed.

Family Welfare.—The Family Welfare Programme earlier known as Family Planning Programme is being implemented in the district to control population. During the first two Five-Year Plans, i.e. between 1951—61, the approach was essentially clinical. It was expected that people would come for family planning advice and services to the clinics opened under the programme. Although facilities for voluntary sterilization were introduced during the Second Five-Year Plan, yet stress was laid on the distribution of conventional contraceptives. An urban family planning clinic was set up at Civil Hospital, Narnaul, in 1961-62. Mass vasectomy camps were organised but the movement was not sufficient to arrest the unwanted population growth.

During the Third Five-Year Plan, the programme was placed on a war footing and clinical approach was replaced by extension approach. The (IUCD) device, popularly known as loop was introduced in 1965. The facilities for IUCD insertions and sterilizations were provided not only free but acceptors were given incentives. The mass education programme was also intensified. During the Fourth and Fifth Five-Year Plans the highest priority was given to the programme and it was made an integral part of health services in the state.

The family Welfare Programme in the district is looked after by the Chief Medical Officer who is assisted by a District Family Welfare Officer. At block level, rural family welfare units have been attached with all primary centres and these units comprise an Extension Educator, Family Planning Field Workers, Lady Health Visitor, Auxiliary Nurse Mid-wives and trained *dais*. At village level, family welfare services are provided by sub-centres, field workers and rural dispensaries. In 1976, multipurpose field workers scheme was introduced and all family welfare workers were converted into multi-purpose health workers and family welfare services henceforward were provided by these workers.

The family welfare practices include sterilizations of males and females, insertion of IUCD (intra-uterine contraceptive device) and other conventional contraceptives (condoms, diaphragm, jelly, foam tablets and oral pills). Oral pills are available at Civil Hospital, Narnaul whereas the other contraceptives are distributed through primary health centres, sub-centres, contraceptive depots and rural post offices.

Services under the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971, are available in the district at civil hospitals at Narnaul, Rewari and Mahendragarh and primary health centre at Bawal. In 1978, there were 1,38,880 eligible couples but there were only 430 sterilization cases, and 2,454 IUCD cases and 14,267 used other conventional contraceptives. The success of the programme

depends on the way these couples and other couples adopt family welfare methods. User and non-user couples are visited by multi-purpose workers at regular intervals to educate and motivate them to adopt some method of family planning. Group meetings and other mass media approach are also adopted. Over the years, the family welfare programme has gained momentum. Although the message of spacing and limitation has reached every corner of the district, yet the problem of population explosion is still acute and requires constant efforts.

Maternity Services.—Many women lost their lives as a consequence of child-birth; many more who survived suffered from ill-health. It was a problem because people were conservative and illiterate. So the work pertaining to maternity and child health was taken up.

Maternity and child health services form an integral part of general health care in the district. The maternity and child health services have been integrated with family welfare services and these services are provided through primary health centres and sub-centres, maternity and child health centres, family planning clinics and civil hospitals.

The District Red Cross Society has been running two maternity and child health centres since 1957 in the Rewari tahsil. A lady health visitor and a trained *dai* have been provided in each of the maternity and child health centres for providing maternity and child health services. Besides, 5 *dai* centres at villages Khori, Mundi, Bhudpur, Rampura and Balaha Kalan have been opened by the District Red Cross Society. Trained *dais* are also available in Ayurvedic dispensaries, rural dispensaries and civil dispensaries. They provide midwifery service to the rural population.

Primary Health Centres.—These institutions are rendering a valuable service in the rural areas. The primary health centres at Nangal Chaudhry, Kanina, Ateli, Bawal, Khole, Gurawada were established between 1955 and 1959. The primary health centres at Shelong and Dochana were established during 1960 and 1963 respectively.

The main function of these centres is to provide both preventive and curative services to the people. These include treatment of outdoor and indoor patients, maternity and child health services, family welfare services, environmental sanitation, nutrition, school health services and immunization programme.

Prevention of food adulteration.—Adulteration in food stuffs is checked under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954. Besides Food Inspector specially appointed under the provisions of the Act, the Chief Medical Officer, Deputy Chief Medical Officer (Health), all Senior Medical Officers, Medical Officers and tahsil Sanitary Inspectors have been invested with the powers of Food Inspector.

Nutrition

The Applied Nutrition Programme aided by UNICEF has been introduced in Ateli, Kanina and Mahendragarh blocks. Under this programme, powder milk, eggs, *gur*, groundnut, groundnut oil and fruit are distributed to the babies and pregnant women. The programme aims at educating people in taking a balanced and nutritive diet from amongst the available food items.

WATER SUPPLY

Water Supply (Rural).—Village ponds and percolation wells were the only sources of water supply in the past. The percolation wells were mostly located by the side of ponds. Since the rainfall was scanty, the continuous drought condition dried up ponds and wells. Thus the human beings and cattle were exposed to great hardship. In order to ameliorate the miserable plight of the people, the work under the National Water Supply and Sanitation Programme was taken up in 1954. By 1966 only 5 villages were covered, but the scheme progressed thereafter and by 1978, 181 villages of the district were covered under the programme and water supply was made available to many villages. As individual and domestic connections were not given in rural areas, public stand posts were provided at focal points.

Water Supply (Urban).—By 1978, all the 6 towns of the district were covered with piped water supply.

Sewerage.—There is no underground sewerage facilities in the rural area. Skeleton sewerage facilities existed in Rewari and Narnaul towns.

CHAPTER XVII

OTHER SOCIAL SERVICES

INTRODUCTION

Social services as now understood are a new phase of public activities which have been assuming greater importance day by day to fulfil the aims and objectives of a welfare state. Before Independence, the government whether British or the princely states paid little attention to the social welfare and were mainly concerned with the maintenance of law and order, preservation of peace and guarding the life and property of the people. Since Independence the government introduced and implemented various measures for ameliorating the condition of the backward sections of the society which were neglected or exploited and suffered from a number of disabilities for centuries together.

LABOUR WELFARE

Labour welfare, in a wider term, means everything that contributes to the improvement of health, safety, general well-being and productive efficiency of the workers. It further includes such services, facilities and amenities as may be provided in or outside the vicinity of undertakings to enable the persons employed to perform their work in healthy and congenial surroundings.

Before Independence, there was no regular government organisation to ensure the welfare of the workers and to solve the labour problems in the district. A separate Labour Department in the composite Punjab was established in 1949. Till the creation of Haryana as a separate state (November 1, 1966), all labour matters relating to the areas now comprising Mahendragarh district were looked after by the Labour Officer, Rohtak, and the Conciliation Officer, Bhiwani. After the creation of Haryana, the above two offices were combined and a Labour-cum-Conciliation Officer was posted at Bhiwani. Since August 5, 1973, the Mahendragarh district falls within the jurisdiction of the Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Gurgaon, who is under the overall charge of the Labour Commissioner, Haryana, Chandigarh.

The Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Gurgaon looks after the proper and effective implementation of labour laws in the district and is assisted by a Labour Inspector stationed at Rewari. As a Conciliation Officer,

he tries to settle the industrial disputes by mediation and joint discussion. If he fails to settle the disputes, he submits his report to the government.

Labour Legislation

Labour legislation is that body of legal enactments and judicial principles which deals with employment, wages, working conditions, industrial relations, social security and labour welfare of industrial workers. It is that part of the state action by which the state intervenes in the conduct of industry and imposes statutory obligations for the most part on the employers and to a subsidiary degree, on the workmen. To tackle the labour problems many Labour Acts were passed by the central and state governments.

The more important enactments passed and implemented are listed below :

Subject matter	Name of the Act	Whether Central or State Act	Main provisions
1	2	3	4
Working conditions, industrial safety, hygiene and welfare inside the place of work	(1) The Factories Act, 1948	Central Act	Elaborate provisions have been made in the Act regarding the conditions of work inside factories including hours of work, employment of young persons, leave with wages, occupational diseases, safeguard for health, promotion of safety and welfare of workers and special provision for young persons and women. Welfare measures like first-aid appliances, canteens, creches, cold drinking water, etc., near the places of work have also been provided under the Act.
	(2) The Employment Act of Children Act, 1938	Central Act	The Act prohibits employment of children below the age of 15 years in any occupation connected with the transport of passengers, goods or mail by railways or connected with a port authority within the limits of any port. It also prohibits employment of children in the workshops connected with bidi-making, carpet, weaving, cement manufacture (including bagging of cement), cloth printing, dyeing and weaving, manufacture

1	2	3	4
			of matches, explosives and fire-works, mica cutting and splitting, shellac manufacture, soap manufacture, tanning and wool cleaning.
	(3) The Punjab Shops and Commercial Establishments Act, 1958	State Act	The Act regulates conditions of work and term of employment of workers engaged in shops and commercial establishments and in those industrial establishments which are not covered under the Factories Act, 1948. It covers hours of work, holidays, leave, wages, employment of children and their working hours, closing and opening hours, health, safety, maternity benefits and welfare.
Wages	(1) The payment of Wages Act, 1936	Central Act	The Act regulates timely payment of wages without any unauthorised deductions. As a result of an amendment in 1975, the coverage of the Act has been extended to persons getting wages upto Rs, 1,000 per mensem.
	(2) The Minimum Central Wages Act, 1948	Central Act	The Act provides for fixation of minimum wages, working hours, weekly rest, etc.
	(3) The Equal Remuneration Act, 1976	Central Act	The Act provides for the payment of equal remuneration to men and women workers and for the prevention of discrimination on the ground of sex against women.
Industrial relations	(1) The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947	Central Act	The Act provides for settlement of industrial disputes, lay off payment and payments at the time of retrenchment. As a result of an amendment (in 1965) in Section 2-A of the Act, any individual can raise a dispute relating to his dismissal. By another amendment in 1976, the industrial establishments employing 300 or more workers are required to obtain prior permission of the government in matters of lay-off and retrenchment of workers and closure of their unit(s).

1	2	3	4
	(2) The Industrial Employment (Standing Orders) Act, 1946	Central Act	The Act requires employers to make standing orders defining terms of employment of workers on specified matters and to get them certified by the certifying officer.
Trade Unions	The Indian Trade Unions Act, 1926	Central Act	The Act makes provision for the registration of trade unions and describes the rights, privileges, obligation and liabilities of registered trade unions.
Social Security	(1) The Workmen's Compensation Act, 1923	Central Act	The Act provides for payment of compensation to workmen in case of injury caused by an accident arising out of and in the course of employment. It also provides for payment of compensation for certain occupational diseases. As a result of an amendment in 1976 the coverage of the Act has been extended with retrospective effect to workers getting wages not exceeding Rs. 1,000 per mensem.
	(2) The Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948	Central Act	The Act provides for five types of benefits to the employees, viz. sickness benefit, maternity benefit, dependents benefit, disablement benefit and medical benefit.
	(3) The Employees' Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952	Central Act	The Act seeks to make a provision for the future of industrial worker after he retires or is retrenched or for his dependent in case of his early death.
	(4) The Maternity Benefit Act, 1961	Central Act	The Act provides for payment of cash benefit to women workers for specified periods before and after child birth and for other incidental matters.
	(5) The Punjab Labour Welfare Fund Act, 1965	State Act	All unpaid accumulations of workers have to be paid to the Labour Welfare Board constituted for the purpose by the State government, which shall keep a separate account to be utilised by it for

	(6) The Payment of Gratuity Act, 1972	Central Act	defraying the cost of carrying out measures for promoting the welfare of labourers and their dependents.												
			To provide for a scheme for the payment of gratuity for employees engaged in factories, mines, oil-fields, plantation, ports, railway, companies, shops or other establishments and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto. Gratuity [shall be payable to an employee on the termination of his employment after he has rendered continuous service for not less than 5 years. Gratuity payable under this Act, shall not be liable to attachment in execution of any decree or order of any civil, revenue or criminal court.												
Housing	The Punjab Industrial Housing Act, 1956	State Act	The Act provides for the administration, allotment, realisation of rent, etc., in connection with quarter constructed under the subsidised industrial housing scheme.												
Bonus	The Payment of Bonus Act, 1965	Central Act	Every establishment whether running in a profit or loss is required to pay bonus at the rate of 4 per cent or Rs. 40 whichever is more.												
Leave	The Punjab Industrial Establishments (National and Festival Holidays and Casual and Sick leave) Act, 1965	State Act	Every establishment has to allow to its employees, the following : <table border="1" data-bbox="665 1290 1044 1648"> <tbody> <tr> <td>National Holidays</td> <td>3</td> <td>(i.e. 26th January, 15th August and 2nd October)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Festival Holidays</td> <td>5</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Casual Leave</td> <td>7</td> <td></td> </tr> <tr> <td>Sick Leave</td> <td>14</td> <td></td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	National Holidays	3	(i.e. 26th January, 15th August and 2nd October)	Festival Holidays	5		Casual Leave	7		Sick Leave	14	
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1	2	3	4
Welfare of transport workers	The Motor Transport Workers Act, 1961	Central Act	The Act provides for the welfare of motor transport workers and regulates the conditions of their work. It applies to every motor transport undertaking employing five or more workers.
Welfare of contract workers	The Contract Labour (Regulation and Abolition) Act, 1970	Central Act	The Act regulates the employment of contract labour in certain establishments and provides for its abolition in certain circumstances and for matters connected therewith.
	The Bonded Labour (Abolition) Act, 1976	Central Act	It prevents the forceful labour.

The Factories Act, 1948, is one of the most important labour legislations. The Act regulates the conditions of labour in factories not using power and employing 20 or more workers and in factories using power and employing 10 or more workers. Elaborate provisions have been made in the Act regarding the conditions of work inside the factories including hours of work, leave with wages in case of occupational diseases, employment of young persons, safeguards for health, hygiene and promotion of safety and welfare of workers in general. Special provisions exist for young persons and women. Facilities for rendering First-aid, running canteens and creches, making available drinking-water, etc., near the place of work have also been made obligatory.

The Factory Inspector, Hisar inspects the factories of Mahendragarh district. To look after the general welfare of its employees, every factory employing 500 or more workers is required to appoint a Labour Officer. However, there is no such factory in this district at present.

Industrial Relations.—The industrial relations between the workers and the employers are governed by the Industrial Disputes Act, 1947. As already mentioned, the Labour Officer-cum-Conciliation Officer, Gurgaon, settles disputes which come to his notice during the course of discharging his duties. The Industrial Disputes Act, 1947, provides for the constitution of works committees in the industrial establishments employing 100 or more workers. These committees resolve differences between the workers and the employers in the initial stages. Such committees exist in H.P. Industries, Rewari and Aggarwal Metal Works, Rewari.

During the period from November, 1966 to March, 1978, 117 disputes of this district were handled by the Conciliation Officer, Gurgaon. Of these, 24 were settled through intervention; 8 were referred to adjudication/arbitration; 23 were withdrawn and 59 were rejected by the government.

Strikes.—In spite of the efforts to maintain healthy and peaceful atmosphere in industrial concerns, strikes do take place now and then. From November, 1966 to March, 1978 two strikes occurred in two establishments in which 182 workers were involved and 352 man-days were lost.

Trade Unions.—The following trade unions existed in the district on March 31, 1978 :—

1. Municipal Employees Union, Mahendragarh
2. Municipal Employees Union, Narnaul
3. Nagarpalika Karamchari Sangh, Rewari
4. Municipal Karamchari Sangh, Rewari
5. The Akhil Bhartiya Mazdoor Shora Association, Rewari
6. Aggarwal Metal Works Karamchari Union, Rewari
7. Rehri Mazdoor Union, Rewari
8. Safai Mazdoor Union, Rewari

Employees' Provident Funds Scheme.—This scheme was sponsored by the Government of India under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. It was designed to provide social security to workers in the old age and others emergent situations during his life time. The scheme was introduced in the district on November 1, 1952 in the industrial concerns/establishments. Initially, it was applicable only to such factories/establishments which employed 50 or more persons but this limit was lowered from December 31, 1960 and the establishments employing 20 or more persons are covered under this scheme.

Till January 1963, provident fund contribution was deducted at the rate of 6½ per cent from the monthly emoluments of the subscribers and an equal amount was contributed by the employers. The rate of monthly deductions was enhanced from 6½ per cent to 8 per cent in 1963. By March, 1978, only 8 factories/establishments were covered under the scheme in the Mahendragarh district.

The Fund vests in a Central Board of Trustees having the nominees of central government, state government and representatives of employers and

workers. The Regional Provident Fund Commissioner, Chandigarh, is responsible for the implementation of this scheme

The subscriber can withdraw money from the provident fund for certain approved purposes. He is allowed to withdraw the full amount standing at his credit in the fund on completing 15 years of membership; or on attaining the age of 55 years; or after retirement from the service; or on retirement on account of permanent and total incapacity for work; or on migration from India for permanent settlement abroad; or on termination of service in the case of mass retrenchment.

Family Pension-cum-Life Assurance Scheme, 1971.—This is a centrally sponsored scheme which was introduced by amending the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952. Started in 1971, it provides family pension to the heirs of the members of the Fund who die prematurely while in service.

No additional liability on the members is imposed under the scheme, but $1\frac{1}{2}$ per cent of his wages are transferred to Family Pension Fund out of the amount of the subscriber as well as Employer's contributions payable under the Employees' Provident Funds and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952.

The members who join the above scheme at the age of 25 years or less and retire after attaining the age of 60 years, are eligible to get a sum of Rs. 4,000. Similarly, those who leave service for reasons other than death are allowed withdrawal benefits at certain rates. For those who join scheme after the age of 25 years, a percentage reduction in benefits has been prescribed.

Employees' State Insurance Scheme.—This scheme is designed to accomplish the task of protecting employees as defined in the Employees' State Insurance Act, 1948 against the hazards of sickness, maternity, disablement and death due to employment injury and to provide medical care to insured persons and their families.

The scheme provides protection to all employees engaged on monthly remuneration not exceeding rupees one thousand in a factory using power and employing 20 or more persons. The Act places prime responsibility on employers of paying his as well as the employees' share of the contribution. The contributions are payable by the employee and his employer. The employees' share is to be deducted from his wages by the employer. The amount of weekly contribution, payable in respect of an employee, depends upon his average wages during that week, and contributions are payable in respect of every week for the whole or part of which an employee is employed and receives wages.

The scheme is implemented under the administrative control of the Director General Employees State Insurance Corporation, New Delhi. In Haryana, this scheme is executed through the Regional Director, Employees State Insurance Corporation, Chandigarh, who inspects factories, collects contributions and arranges the payment of cash benefits.

The provision of medical benefit is the statutory responsibility of the state government and facilities are to be given according to the standards laid down by the Employees State Insurance Corporation; 7/8 of the expenditure incurred on medical care is contributed by the Employees State Insurance Corporation and the remaining 1/8 of the total expenditure is borne by the state government. The expenditure on other cash benefits is to be met entirely out of the Employees State Insurance Fund and is arranged by the Regional Director.

The scheme was introduced in the Rewari tahsil in 1968 and on March 31, 1978, 2,050 employees working in 35 units were covered under the scheme. Free medical treatment to the insured persons and the members of their family is administered through E.S.I. dispensaries at Rewari.

PROHIBITION

A programme of partial prohibition of observing two dry days, i.e. Monday and Tuesday, in a week besides other four dry days (Independence day—15th August, Acharya Vinoba Bhave's birthday—11th September and Mahatma Gandhi's birth day—2nd October), was introduced in April, 1969, in the areas which now comprise Mahendragarh district. The above policy was intended to increase the number of dry days gradually in each successive year to achieve complete prohibition within three or four years. But during this partial prohibition, government noticed malpractices of selling liquor on prohibited days. The whole situation was, therefore, reviewed in March, 1970 and with effect from April, 1970, it was decided to enforce only the policy of observing three or four closed days in a year. However, from April, 1973, every 7th day of a month is also observed as a closed day.

It was further decided that no liquor shop should be opened within a distance of 50 metres from an educational institution or bus stand or place of public worship or public entertainment, and 100 metres of a school or a college for women. The maximum limit of keeping only one bottle of country spirit in an individual's possession was also introduced. The total prohibition was enforced with effect from April, 1971, in the Mahendragarh district which remained dry for two years. On April, 1, 1973, the district was again declared wet. By the end of March, 1978, there were 69 liquor

vends including 22 dealing in Indian-made foreign liquor. The consumption of excisable articles in the district during 1975-76 to 1977-78 was as follows :—

Year	Country liquor (proof litres)	Foreign liquor (proof litres)	Beer and wine (proof litres)
1975-76	2,80,225	29,126	66,251
1976-77	3,00,000	32,772	1,18,333
1977-78	3,06,032	52,533	1,59,346

The number of cases detected under the Excise and Opium Acts during the period from 1975-76 to 1977-78 was as under :—

Year	Cases detected	
	Excise Act (Number)	Opium Act (Number)
1975-76	781	155
1976-77	770	164
1977-78	384	62

There has been total prohibition of the consumption of opium and *bhang* throughout Haryana.

SOCIAL WELFARE

The government has the responsibility to uplift and rehabilitate the socially and economically backward sections of the society. Keeping in view this object, many schemes have been launched, a few of which are described below :—

Old-age Pension.—The old-age pension scheme was introduced in the composite Punjab in 1964 but it was scrapped in 1967. Again it was revived in April, 1969. As a measure of social security for the old and infirm, old-age pensions are given to old and infirm persons, irrespective of caste and creed, who have no means of livelihood and there is none to look after them. In case of men, they should be above 65 years and in case of women, above 60 years. The age is relaxable by 10 years for the permanent physically handicapped persons. Under this scheme, each beneficiary was previously given a pension of Rs. 25 per month but it was enhanced to Rs. 50 in April, 1977.

The total number of beneficiaries covered under this scheme in the district, as on March 31, 1978, was 468.

Scholarship to the physically handicapped.—The economic protection in the form of scholarship is provided to the physically handicapped children, provided they belong to lower income families, studying up to middle class. In April, 1977, government extended this facility to such students of higher classes also. The rate of scholarship ranges between Rs. 40 to Rs. 185. During the year 1977-78, 16 students were given scholarship in the district.

Nutrition Programme.—This is a centrally sponsored scheme which was introduced in 1970-71. Under this scheme, nutrition was provided only to the children less than 3 years of age living in urban slums. From 1971-72, entire group of pre-school children below six years of age and expectant mothers in the urban areas were also brought under the purview of the scheme. During 1977-78, there were two such centres at Narnaul and the number of beneficiaries during the same period was 396.

Child Welfare.—A branch of the Haryana State Council for Child Welfare was set up at Narnaul in 1971 to promote the welfare of children and to educate the public on child welfare. The District Council for Child Welfare, Narnaul runs ten *balwadis* at the following places :—

1. Balawas Ahir(Rewari tahsil)
2. Bhudpur(Rewari tahsil)
3. Dahina (Rewari tahsil)
4. Gurawada(Rewari tahsil)
5. Jainabad (Rewari tahsil)
6. Khori (Rewari tahsil)
7. Moondi (Rewari tahsil)
8. Mahendragarh (Mahendragarh tahsil)
9. Narnaul (Narnaul tahsil)
10. Siha (Rewari tahsil)

In addition to above institutions, there are creches at Johnawas,, Hansaka, Khori, Narnaul, Bachhod, Bikaner and Nangal Chaudhry. Special home work classes-cum-play centres are also being run at Bachhod, Nangal Chaudhry, Jainabad, Siha, Johnawas, Balawas Ahir, Moondi, Budpur, Hansaka, Dahina, Dharuhera, Gurawada and Khori.

All the *balwadis*, creches and special work classes-cum-play centres are run by the trained Balsevikas. The main activities of the *balwadis* are to give pre-school education to the children of rural people and to those who are economically backward. The children are guided on the importance of cleanliness and environmental knowledge. The elementary knowledge about animals, vegetables and counting is also given. The children are also given facilities for developing their artistic taste at their initial stages through paper cutting, clay-modelling, paper pasting, figure painting, etc. Besides, main activities of the day-care centres (creches) are to save the ailing and nursing mothers from any type of hazard.

The main sources of income of the District Council for Child Welfare are membership subscription, public donations and grant from the Haryana State Council for Child Welfare, Chandigarh.

Advancement of Backward Classes

The Scheduled Castes, Vimukat Jatis and other Backward Classes residing in the district are as under :—

Scheduled Castes : Chamar, Jatia Chamar, Reghar, Ramdasi, Ravidasi, Mochi, Balmiki, Chura or Bhangi, Dhanak, Dumna, Doom, Kabirpanthi, Khatik, Koli, Mazhabi, Perna, Sikligar, Sapela, Sirkiband, Bangali, Bauria or Bawaria, Bazigar;

Vimukat Jatis : Gandhila, Nat, Kuchband;

Other Backward Classes : Bairagi, Bharbhunja, Bhat, Banzara, Dhobi, Dakaut, Fakir, Heri or Naik, Gawaria, Guaria, Nai or Hajjam, Julaha, Jogi Nath, Kumhar, Khati, Chhipi, Lohar, Kashyap Rajput, Teli, Maniyar, Thathera, Mochi¹.

The different professions adopted by these classes are almost traditional. These include agricultural labour, labour, sweeping, scavenging, shoe-making or shoe-mending, basket and rope-making, *chhaj* and *sirki*-making, animal rearing, snake-charming, hair-cutting, iron-smithy, washing, tailoring, dyeing, etc.

Prior to Independence, the Scheduled Castes suffered from many disabilities in the district as in the rest of the country. The untouchability prevailed among Hindus to a large extent in spite of the efforts of social reformers. The social disabilities were accompanied by wide economic and cultural disabilities, each reinforcing the other in the caste-ridden and

1. Only a non-Hindu or a non-Sikh mochi is covered under the Backward Classes.

stratified society. The opportunities for betterment were practically denied. Other backward classes did not suffer these disabilities to the same extent. The government has implemented the following schemes to uplift the Backward Classes :—

Scheme for Welfare of Harijan Widows.—Started in 1974-75, the scheme provides the means of livelihood to the widows who have no source of income. It enables them to stand on their feet. Under the scheme, free training is imparted to them in cutting, sewing and embroidery. Besides, the expenditure on the raw material required for the training is also borne by the government. The Harijan trainees get stipend of Rs. 20 each per month during the course of one year training. After training, each trainee is supplied with a new machine so that she may earn her livelihood. Till March 31, 1978, 29 widows were trained and each one of them was given a sewing machine to earn her living.

Subsidy for House-Sites.—Congested houses in Harijan *bastis* posed a serious problem. Although, the Punjab Village Common Lands (Registration) Act, 1961 conferred upon Harijans, the proprietary rights over the sites under their houses, yet the problem was not solved. Under the centrally-sponsored scheme introduced in 1958-59, a sum of Rs. 200 was granted as a subsidy to each deserving and needy member of Scheduled Castes and Vimukat Jatis, for the purchase of house sites. The scheme was, however, dropped in 1967-68 as the amount was considered meagre to purchase a plot. Later, in 1968-69, this facility for house sites was again made available. This time an amount of Rs. 1,000 as loan was permissible to the needy person at 3 per cent interest. During the period, a sum of Rs. 31,000 was granted as loan to 31 persons in the district. But this scheme was again withdrawn due to rise in the price of land. Under a special programme, Harijans are given a site of 100 square yards free of cost.

Subsidy for the Construction of the New Houses.—A scheme for the grant of subsidy of Rs. 900 for construction of a new house was started in 1963-64. The amount was raised from Rs. 900 to Rs. 2,000 in 1974-75. This facility improved their standard of living to some extent. During 1963-64 to 1977-78, a sum of Rs. 3,48,100 was disbursed to 363 beneficiaries.

Drinking Water Amenities.—Grants are given to Harijans in rural as well as in urban areas for the provision of drinking water facilities. The wells and hand-pumps constructed/installed as such are open to the general public also. This scheme was introduced during 1955-56. A sum of Rs. 1,61,454 was disbursed as subsidy for digging 62 new wells and for the repair of 74 old wells in 136 villages of the district from 1966-67 to 1977-78.

Award of Scholarship and Re-imbusement of Fees.—One of the important schemes aiming at the improvement of the educational standards of the members

of these classes, relates to the award of scholarship and re-imbursement of fees to such students. The details of such schemes are given in the chapter 'Education and Culture'.

Facilities for Industrial Training.—To improve the economic condition of Scheduled Castes/Backward Classes, their young men are trained as skilled workers in various trades in different institutions. During the course, a scholarship of Rs. 45 per month is given to the students of Scheduled Castes. By March 31, 1978, 472 students were given scholarships under the scheme.

Grant of Interest-Free Loan.—This scheme was introduced in 1958-59. For lack of finances, professionally trained members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes find it difficult to run the professions of law, medicine, engineering and architecture. Besides them, there are other members who need money for expanding or establishing an industry, business or trade such as shoe-making, cattle-breeding, wood-work, weaving, sewing, etc. They are, therefore, helped with loans free of interest. These loans are recovered in 20 half-yearly instalments and the first recovery starts after lapse of four years. The maximum amount which is granted to the borrower is Rs. 2,000. During 1958-59 to 1977-78, a sum of Rs. 1,93,415 was advanced to 308 persons of the district.

Subsidy/Loan for the Purchase of Agricultural Land.—To help the deserving landless members of Scheduled Castes and Vimukat Jatis, the scheme as it existed before 1969-70, provided a subsidy of Rs. 2,000 to an individual who in turn had to contribute the remaining amount of purchase not less than 5 acres of land costing not less than Rs. 900 per acre. A person settled in such a way was given a subsidy of Rs. 500 for the construction of a house or well on the land purchased with the help of the government. A sum of Rs. 360 as subsidy to meet the expenses on the stamp duty for registration of such land was also provided in each case.

The subsidy-oriented land purchase scheme was remodelled into a loan scheme with effect from 1969-70. Under this scheme, a provision for the loan of Rs. 4,500 was made and the area of land to be purchased was reduced from 5 acres to 3 acres. In view of the higher price of agricultural land, the amount of loan was raised from Rs. 4,500 to Rs. 6,000 during the year 1972-73. A subsidy of Rs. 360 for the purchase of agricultural implements was enhanced to Rs. 500 from 1974-75. Besides, a person was helped with an amount of Rs. 500 as subsidy for digging a well. The limit of this amount was also raised to Rs. 1,000 in 1974-75.

During 1958-59 to 1966-67, a subsidy of Rs. 1,74,000 was granted to 57 beneficiaries for the purchase of agricultural land. In addition to this, an

amount of Rs. 54,500 was distributed as subsidy among 78 persons for the construction of wells on the land so purchased. Further, an amount of Rs. 1,440 was granted as subsidy to 4 persons for the payment of stamp duty. The total area of land purchased with the financial assistance from the government was 750 acres by 150 persons.

An amount of Rs. 48,500 was granted as loan to 11 persons for the purchase of agricultural land during years 1969-70 and 1972-73.

This facility of loan/subsidy for the purchase of land by the Harijans was withdrawn in 1974-75 and under the Haryana Ceiling on Land Holdings Act, 1972, the members of Scheduled Castes and other Backward Classes are entitled to the allotment of the surplus area declared under the above Act.

Legal Assistance.—In order to protect the interest of the members of the Scheduled Castes and Vimukhat Jatis in criminal, civil and revenue cases and to safeguard their rights against the landlords and others, the scheme of providing legal assistance to them has been in operation since 1958-59. The implementation of this scheme is under the charge of Deputy Commissioner who is assisted by the District Welfare Officer. Since the creation of Haryana to 1977-78, legal assistance amounting to Rs. 1,498 was granted to 24 persons.

Subsidy for the Purchase of Pigs.—This scheme was started in 1959-60. The deserving and needy members of the Scheduled Castes are given a subsidy of Rs. 800 each for the purchase of pigs. A sum of Rs. 45,800 was paid to 57 beneficiaries during the period from 1966-67 to 1977-78.

Subsidy for Construction /Repair of Chaupals.—The members of Scheduled Castes had no place for their get-together and the celebration of the marriages of their children. In order to remove this difficulty, the government introduced a scheme in 1970-71 under which a sum of Rs. 5,000 was given as subsidy for the construction of a new chaupal and Rs. 2,000 for the repair of the existing one. An amount of Rs. 5,48,500 was distributed under this scheme by the end of March, 1978 among 198 villages for the construction/repair of chaupals.

Haryana Harijan Kalyan Nigam Ltd.—The Nigam was established by the state government at Chandigarh in 1971 with the sole objective of giving financial assistance to the Harijans for their socio-economic and educational uplift.

The Nigam advances loans at the moderate rate of interest for various trades/professions, such as dairy-farming, leather-work, purchase of tractor, taxi, tempo, sheep and goats, setting up of flour mills, brick-kiln, etc. These

loans are recoverable in easy instalments. Since 1973, all loans are recoverable in 10 equated half-yearly instalments, starting one year after the receipt of the loan.

A loan upto Rs. 10,000 is given to an individual and up to Rs. 50,000 to the registered partnership firms and cooperative societies comprising members of Scheduled Castes only. The loans advanced by Haryana Harijan Kalyan Nigam to the members of Scheduled Castes in Mahendragarh district for various trades/professions during 1973-74 to 1977-78, are detailed below :—

Trade/Profession	1973-74 (Rs.)	1974-75 (Rs.)	1975-76 (Rs.)	1976-77 (Rs.)	1977-78 (Rs.)
1. Dairy Farming	23,000	58,500	22,500	14,500	10,500
2. Sheep & Goats	9,000	46,000	6,000	10,500	2,500
3. Leather	31,500	19,000	5,000	2,000	—
4. Piggery	—	3,500	3,000	3,000	2,000
5. Tractors	—	—	—	—	—
6. Sub-dealership in Tractors	—	—	—	—	—
7. Flour Mills	—	10,000	—	—	—
8. Miscellaneous	19,000	23,000	14,000	20,000	9,900
Total :	82,500	1,60,000	50,500	50,500	24,900

Social Equality.—The Directive Principles of State Policy lays down that the state shall promote with special care the educational and economic interests of the weaker sections of the people, and of the Scheduled Castes in particular, and shall protect them from social injustice and all forms of exploitation. The Fundamental Rights embodied in the Constitution enjoin abolition of untouchability and forbid its practice in any form. The enforcement of any disability arising out of 'untouchability' has been made penal by the Protection of Civil Rights Act, 1955. To ensure equality of opportunity for all citizens in matters relating to employment, it has been laid down that no citizen shall, on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex, place of birth, residence, be ineligible for, or discriminated against, in respect of any employment or office under the State. It is now amply recognised that nobody becomes an untouchable by birth or on account of his following a particular avocation.

Despite these constitutional guarantees, the untouchability is practised in one form or the other, especially in rural areas. A special programme for removal of untouchability is carried on through community centres and *balwadis*. These are started at places where there are large concentrations of members of the Scheduled Castes and Backward Classes. The community centres are functioning at Bachhod (Narnaul tahsil), Kutabpur (Rewari tahsil), Bawal (Bawal tahsil), Budoli (Rewari tahsil) and Bassi (Mahendragarh tahsil). These centres are open to the members of other communities as well. The centres provide an opportunity to get training together. The other activities such as games and cultural programmes propagate against untouchability.

CHARITABLE ORGANISATIONS

The charitable organisations play a very important role in the society. Such trusts render voluntary social service to the people. Many educational institutions, *dharamarth ausdhalyas*, dispensaries and *dharmshalas* are being run by these organisations. The sources of income include voluntary contributions or income from revenue exempt lands. Some of the important charitable trusts as on March 31, 1978 are described below :—

1. **Lala Radhakrishan Kandia Dharmada Trust.**—Established by Lala Mangat Rai/Ganpat Rai Shadi on September 14, 1901 at Mahendragarh, it has been serving the people with the objective of charitable purposes. It is running a charitable middle school and a *dharamshala* at Mahendragarh.

2. **Seth Tara Chand Trust.**—With the aim of charitable service to the people, the trust was established at Mahendragarh by Mrs. Ratni Bai on July 30, 1926. It is running a *dharamarth ausdhalya*.

3. **Shri Gujarmal Sirohiwala Trust.**—It was established with the sole aim of the service to the people on charitable grounds by Shri Gujarmal in 1964. Besides other things, the trust is running a water-hut in the town.

4. **Mahadev Parshad Dharamarth Trust.**—The trust was set up at Narnaul by Shri Mahadev Parshad in 1980 B.K. It is rendering eye-service to the people.

5. **Dadudayal Trust.**—The trust was established at Narnaul in 1961 by Shri Dadudayal. Its aim was to raise *dharamarth* temples to inculcate a sense of worship to the people.

6. **Satya Kabir Dharamarth Trust.**—It was set with the objective of opening temples in 1971 by Mahant Pokhar Dass. It is serving the society in the domain of religion.

7. **Girdhari Trust, Narnaul.**—The trust was started at Narnaul in 1959 by Shri Girdhari Lal. It is serving the people by opening water-huts on charitable grounds in the district.

8. **Mandir Devi Ji Trust at Dhosi-hill.**—The trust was established by Nand Braham Chari in 2007 B.K. It helps in running a temple and Sanskrit School at Shiv Kund at Dhosi-hill.

CHAPTER XVIII

PUBLIC LIFE AND VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

REPRESENTATION OF THE DISTRICT IN THE STATE AND UNION LEGISLATURES

So far all the general elections to the Lok Sabha and Vidhan Sabha including the mid-term Vidhan Sabha elections held in 1968 have been conducted smoothly in the areas now forming the Mahendragarh district.

A brief account of each general election to the union and state legislature held in the district since 1952 is given below :

LOK SABHA

Before the formation of Haryana in 1966, there were three general elections in which the present Mahendragarh district formed part of two parliamentary constituencies, viz. Mahendragarh and Jhajjar-Rewari. The areas of Kanina, Mahendragarh, Ateli, Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry assembly constituencies formed part of Mahendragarh parliamentary constituency and Rewari assembly constituency formed part of Jhajjar-Rewari parliamentary constituency. In the First General Elections, 1952, Congress candidates were returned from both the parliamentary constituencies. During the Second General Elections, 1957, a Congress candidate was returned from Mahendragarh parliamentary constituency whereas the Communist Party of India bagged Jhajjar-Rewari parliamentary seat. In the Third General Elections, 1962, Jan Sangh candidate won the Mahendragarh parliamentary constituency and the Haryana Lok Samiti candidate captured the Jhajjar-Rewari parliamentary constituency.

Fourth General Elections, 1967—After the formation of Haryana, the district formed part of the Mahendragarh parliamentary constituency. A Congress candidate captured this seat defeating 11 candidates. The number of contestants, the seat won, percentage and valid votes polled by each party were as follows :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seat Won	Valid Votes Polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	1	1	93,903	29.93
Socialist	1	—	19,695	06.27
Republican	1	—	19,142	06.09
Jan Sangh	1	—	47,165	15.01
Independents	8	—	1,34,093	42.70
Total :	12	1	3,13,998	100.00

Fifth General Elections, 1971.—There was no change in the limits of Mahendragarh parliamentary constituency and the areas of Mahendragarh district remained part of this constituency. A candidate of the newly created Vishal Haryana Party was returned from this seat. The number of contestants, the seat won, valid votes with their percentage polled by each party were as follows :

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seat won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Vishal Haryana Party	1	1	1,59,125	46.80
Indian National Congress	1	—	1,57,226	46.25
Proutist Block of India	1	—	3,108	00.90
Independents	3	—	20,572	06.05
Total :	6	1	3,40,031	100.00

Sixth General Elections, 1977.—As a result of delimitation of assembly constituencies in 1974, the Mahendragarh district was covered by the Mahendragarh parliamentary constituency comprising assembly segments, namely, Bawal, Rewari, Jatusana, Mahendragarh, Ateli and Narnaul. Besides this, 3 segments of Gurgaon district, namely, Sohna, Gurgaon and Pataudi also formed part of Mahendragarh Parliamentary constituency. A candidate of the newly created Janata Party captured this seat. The number of contestants and the number and percentage of valid votes polled by each party were as follows :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seat won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Janata Party	1	1	2,55,881	55.28
Vishal Haryana Party	1	—	1,92,867	41.67
Forward block	1	—	2,444	00.53
Socialist Unity Centre of India	1	—	1,353	00.29
Independents	3	—	10,336	02.23
Total :	7	1	4,62,881	100.00

VIDHAN SABHA

During the First General Elections, 1952, the area comprising the present Mahendragarh district had 6 assembly seats namely, Rewari, Kanina, Ateli, Mahendragarh, Narnaul and Nangal Chaudhry. Rewari was double member constituency whereas remaining five were single member constituencies. Out of these 7 seats, four seats were won by the Congress candidates, two by Jan Sangh candidates while remaining one seat was won by an independent. The party-wise position of the contestants, seats won, valid votes polled and their percentage were as follows :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	7	4	75,021	42.80
Jan Sangh	4	2	12,691	07.25
Socialist Party	3	—	10,386	05.92
Zamindara Party	1	—	26,312	15.01
Independents	25	1	50,851	29.02
Total :	40	7	1,75,261	100.00

Second General Elections, 1957.—During the Second General Elections, 1957, the number of constituencies was reduced from 6 to 4 and these constituencies were Rewari, Jatusana, Narnaul and Mahendragarh. All these were single member constituencies. The Rewari constituency returned the Congress candidate uncontested. The constituencies of Jatusana and Mahendragarh were also captured by the Congress candidates whereas a Jan Sangh candidate captured the Narnaul seat. The party-wise position of contestants, seats won, valid votes polled and their percentage were as follows :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	4	3	42,380	47.59
Jan Sangh	1	1	13,168	14.79
Praja Socialist Party	1	—	3,057	3.43
Communist Party of India	1	—	1,680	1.89
Independents	5	—	28,765	32.30
Total :	12	4	89,050	100.00

Third General Elections, 1962.—During the Third General Elections, 1962, system of double member constituency was abolished. Instead, the system of reserved constituency was introduced. Consequently, the number of assembly constituencies was increased from 4 to 5, viz. Rewari, Jatusana, Kanina, Narnaul and Mahendragarh. The assembly constituencies of Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Rewari were captured by Indian National Congress, that of Kanina (Reserved) by a Jan Sangh candidate and the remaining seat of Jatusana was bagged by an independent. The number of contestants, the seats won and the percentage of valid votes polled by each party are shown below :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	5	3	83,702	41.31
Jan Sangh	4	1	29,895	14.76
Socialist	2	—	1,417	00.70
Swatantra	2	—	10,331	05.09
Independents	12	1	77,287	38.14
Total :	25	5	2,02,632	100.00

Fourth General Elections, 1967.—After the formation of Haryana as a separate state, the Fourth General Elections were held in 1967 to the Haryana Vidhan Sabha. The number of constituencies was increased from five to seven, viz., Rewari, Bawal (Reserved), Jatusana, Ateli, Narnaul, Mahendragarh and Kanina. Out of these seven constituencies, the constituencies of Rewari and Ateli were captured by the Congress candidates, the constituency of Narnaul was captured by Jan Sangh candidate and the remaining constituencies of Bawal, Jatusana, Kanina and Mahendragarh returned independent candidates. The partywise position of contestants, seats won, valid votes polled and their percentage were as follows :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Indian National Congress	7	2	90,621	39.20
Jan Sangh	4	1	28,473	12.31
Communist Party of India	1	—	1,009	00.43
Samyukta Socialist Party	2	—	6,080	2.63
Independents	21	4	1,04,966	45.43
Total :	35	7	2,31,149	100.00

Mid-term Elections, 1968.—Haryana Vidhan Sabha was dissolved and President's rule was enforced in November, 1967. The mid-term elections were held during May, 1968. No change was made in the limits and number of constituencies in the district. Out of the seven seats, the Congress candidate was returned from Narnaul constituency whereas all the other 6 seats were bagged by the newly created Vishal Haryana Party. The number of contestants, seats won and valid votes polled with their percentage are shown below :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seat won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Vishal Haryana Party	7	6	1,06,373	46.10
Indian National Congress	7	1	82,087	36.85
Jan Sangh	3	—	7,156	03.56
Republican	1	—	655	00.30
Swatantra	1	—	4,176	2.16
Independents	8	—	20,837	11.03
Total :	26	7	2,21,284	100.00

Fifth General Elections, 1972.—Haryana Vidhan Sabha was again dissolved in January, 1972 and the elections were held in March, 1972. No change was made in the limits and the number of constituencies in the district. Out of the seven seats, five seats, namely; Rewari, Jatusana, Bawal, Mahendragarh and Narnaul were captured by the Congress (R) candidates while two seats of Ateli and Kanina were captured by Vishal Haryana Party candidates. The following were the number of contestants, seats won and valid votes polled by each party :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage
Congress(R)	7	5	1,44,465	51.05
Vishal Haryana Party	7	2	1,21,311	43.67
Independents	9	—	15,880	5.28
Total :	23	7	2,81,656	100.00

Sixth General Elections, 1977.—As a result of delimitation of assembly constituencies in 1974, the number of assembly constituencies of the district decreased from 7 to 6, viz. Rewari, Jatusana, Bawal, Mahendragarh, Ateli and Narnaul. Out of these 6 constituencies, 3 seats of Narnaul, Bawal and Rewari were captured by candidates of newly created Janata Party while the remaining three seats were won by Vishal Haryana Party. The following table gives the number of contestants, seats won, valid votes and their percentage polled by each party :—

Party/Independents	Contestants	Seats won	Valid Votes polled	Percentage polled
Vishal Haryana Party	6	3	1,20,422	41.69
Janata Party	6	3	1,15,470	39.97
Indian National Congress	6	—	24,612	8.52
Socialist Unity Centre of India	1	—	523	00.18
Independents	32	—	27,837	09.64
Total :	51	6	2,88,864	100.00

POLITICAL PARTIES

There was only one local political party of some significance in the district. It was Vishal Haryana Party which was formed during mid-term elections of Vidhan Sabha in 1968 but was merged with the Congress (I) after 1977. The major parties are units of all India parties. The Indian National Congress has been fielding their candidates since 1952. Though it is widely known to the masses, yet it has tasted both victory and defeat during the elections.

The Bhartiya Jan Sangh (now Bhartiya Janata Party) had much influence in the urban areas. The Communist Party of India also won the seat of Jhajjar-Rewari Parliamentary constituency during the General Elections of 1957. Since then it lost its popularity among the masses; as no candidate won even during the assembly elections. The Janata Party won the Lok Sabha elections in 1977 with landslide victory. The popularity of a political party is mainly judged from its success in the elections. The position of different political parties represented in the legislative bodies can be seen

at a glance from the table given below :—

Year	Name of political party	Number of members elected	Number of valid votes polled by all constestants	Percentage
1	2	3	4	5
Lok Sabha				
1952	Indian National Congress	1	57,290	31.07
	Indian National Congress	1	1,02,435	41.6
1957	Indian National Congress	1	82,930	34.72
	Communist Party of India	1	1,48,979	55.10
1962	Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	1,05,027	38.14
	Haryana Lok Samiti	1	1,18,667	34.2
1967	Indian National Congress	1	93,903	29.93
1971	Vishal Haryana Party	1	1,59,125	46.80
1977	Janata Party	1	2,55,881	55.28
Vidhan Sabha				
1952	Indian National Congress	4	75,021	42.80
	Bhartiya Jan Sangh	2	12,691	7.25
	Independents	1	50,851 ¹	29.02
1957	Indian National Congress	3	42,380	47.59
	Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	13,168	14.79
1962	Indian National Congress	3	83,702	41.31
	Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	29,895	14.76
	Independents	1	77,287	38.14
1967	Indian National Congress	2	90,621	39.20
	Bhartiya Jan Sangh	1	28,473	12.31
	Independents	4	1,04,966	45.43

1. The total number of valid votes secured by all the Independents.

1	2	3	4	5
1968	Vishal Haryana Party	6	1,06,373	46.10
	Indian National Congress	1	82,087	36.85
1972	Indian National Congress (R)	5	1,44,465	51.05
	Vishal Haryana Party	2	1,21,311	43.67
1977	Vishal Haryana Party	3	1,20,422	41.69
	Janata Party	3	1,15,470	39.97

The Independents have been contesting the elections since 1952 without manifestoes. Those who win the election are lured by other political parties to support them. After their victory, they generally join one or the other party.

VOLUNTARY SOCIAL SERVICE ORGANISATIONS

The voluntary social service organisations are self governing bodies of people working together for the betterment of the society and the community life as a whole. Voluntary social service organized by concerned public effort is thus a recent phenomenon closely associated with the democratic form of government promising equal status and opportunities to all sections of society. The welfare of the handicapped, economically weaker sections of society, women, children, the illiterate, the diseased, the disabled and the backward strata of society has been engaging the attention of the state and the social service organisations in recent times. Though the number of such organisations in this district is not so large, yet they play an important role in the community. The important of these are described below :

District Red Cross Society, Narnaul.—This organisation, being a branch of the Indian Red Cross Society, was started in 1961. Its executive committee consists of 17 members (14 official and 3 non-official) with the Deputy Commissioner as its President.

The important activities of the society are : hospital welfare, community health and sanitation, relief to the sick, suffering and wounded persons, relief to the defence personnel, maternity and child welfare including family planning, emergency relief of all kinds and economic relief to the sister charitable organisations.

With regard to the maternity and child welfare work, the society runs two health centres at Gokal Garh and Dahina. It also maintains six *dai* centres at Dahina, Moondi, Bhudpur, Rampura, Khori and Balana Kalan.

Relief is provided in the form of clothes, medicines, baby milk powder and vitamin tablets to the poor and needy persons. It also renders assistance to the needy during calamities like floods, fire and epidemics. Seven first-aid posts have also been established at Rewari, Narnaul, Musepur, Dahina, Kanwali, Mahendragarh and Nangal Chaudhry.

The sources of income include membership subscription, contribution and donations. The following table shows the income and expenditure from 1966 to 1978 :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1966	99,505	57,122
1967	72,336	30,629
1968	46,298	8,305
1969	48,652	38,769
1970	39,458	21,544
1971	64,282	50,851
1972	61,192	37,483
1973	96,113	43,183
1974	1,17,723	82,480
1975	21,651	2,12,496
1976	4,50,913	4,05,578
1977	1,81,209	96,904
1978	1,23,598	1,58,860

Hospital Welfare Society, Narnaul .—It was established in 1963. Its membership is open to men and women. During 1977-78, there were 41 members. It is mainly associated with hospital welfare work. The members of the society visit hospitals from time to time and render necessary help to the indoor patients. They always try to solve the difficulties and problems of the patients with the cooperation of the hospital staff. They also check the quality of diet being made available to the patients and supervise and ensure general cleanliness of the hospital premises.

The society also looks after the orphans and abandoned babies. Up to 1975, 4 abandoned babies were admitted to the Civil Hospital, Narnaul.

Its sources of income are membership fee, assistance from the District Red Cross Society, income from variety shows, *bal melas*, etc. The following figures show the income and expenditure of the society from 1970 to 1978 :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1970-71	24,442	6,709
1971-72	1,117	987
1972-73	945	15,612
1973-74	—	30
1974-75	1,971	737
1975-76	11,637	6,753
1976-77	1,350	1,584
1977-78	655	1,914

St. John Ambulance Association, Narnaul.—This association was established in April, 1975. It is a branch of the All India St. John Ambulance Association, Delhi. It provides training in first-aid, home nursing and child welfare. During the period from 1975 to 1978, 3,125 persons received first-aid training. These included school boys, teachers, drivers, conductors and workers.

The sources of income are the fee from first-aid classes and financial assistance received from the District Red Cross Society. The details of income and expenditure from 1975 to 1978 are given below :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1975	4,285	3,456
1976	68,043	67,524
1977	2,191	—
1978	6,561	5,583

District Olympic Association, Narnaul.—It was established at Narnaul in 1968 under the Chairmanship of the Deputy Commissioner. It is affiliated to Haryana Olympic Association. It organises, promotes and controls sports in the district and coordinates the activities of various district sports associations. It also provides financial help to the other sports associations.

A badminton hall was constructed by the association in 1976-77 at an estimated cost of Rs. 2 lakh. It bears the expenditure of teams selected for participation at state level sports meet.

The sources of income of the association include subscriptions/membership fee, grant from the state government, income from *dungles*, etc. The following figures show the income and expenditure of the association from 1970-71 to 1977-78 :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1970-71	6,168	11,648
1971-72	6,620	3,372
1972-73	15,421	15,854
1973-74	2,821	2,741
1974-75	4,678	3,530
1975-76	1,05,548	52,336
1976-77	1,65,865	1,93,795
1977-78	31,142	45,741

Zila Sainik Board, Narnaul.—The Board previously known as District Soldiers', Sailors' and Airmens' Board was established at Narnaul in 1953. The Deputy Commissioner, Mahendragarh, is its ex-officio President.

The main activities of the board is to look after the welfare of the soldiers, ex-servicemen and their families. It also suggests for the improvement of the service conditions of the soldiers.

The expenditure on the establishment of the board is shared by the Central and State Governments. The details of the income and expenditure during 1975-76 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1975-76	58,480	56,850
1976-77	58,410	58,064
1977-78	63,170	62,061

District Child Welfare Council, Narnaul.—The council is affiliated to the Haryana State Council for Child Welfare. The main objectives of the council is to promote the welfare of the children and educate the public on child welfare work.

The council runs 10 *balwadis* at Mahendragarh, Dahina, Jainabad, Siha, Mondri, Balawas Ahir, Bhudpur, Gurawada, Khori and Narnaul and 7 creches at Jonawas, Hansara, Bikaner, Khori, Narnaul, Bachhod and Nangal Chaudhry. Besides, it maintains 6 supervised home work classes-cum-play centres and 2 special nutrition centres. The council celebrates *bal melas*, Independence Day and Republic Day.

The sources of income which include membership fee, subscription, donations, fee from *balwadis* and grant from Haryana State Council for Child Welfare. The income and expenditure of the council during 1975-76 to 1977-78 are given below :—

Year	Income	Expenditure
	Rs.	Rs.
1975-76	1,03,118	92,528
1976-77	1,49,457	1,37,681
1977-78	1,12,522	1,22,009

NEWSPAPERS AND PERIODICALS

There was only one weekly market bulletin, namely, *Aggarwal Metal Samachar* which was started in 1953. In 1960, a Hindi daily *Haryana Times* was started at Narnaul but it was shifted to Gurgaon after a short period. Other publications, viz. *Press Mazdoor* weekly in Hindi started in 1970 and *Khetihar Hiteshi* a Hindi tri-weekly started in 1971, dealt with news and current affairs. The *Mohindergarh Education Journal*, a half-yearly published in English, Hindi and Punjabi was started in 1966. Many of these publications have been discontinued. However, the details of Newspapers/periodicals published from Mahendragarh District as on 31-3-1978 are given below :

Name of the Newspaper/Journal	Language	Periodicity	Place of Publication	Regularity
1. Jyotish Samachar	Hindi	Monthly	Rewari	Regular
2. Aggarwal Metal Samachar	Hindi	Weekly	Rewari	Regular
3. Modern Educator	Hindi, English, Punjabi	Annual	Rewari	Regular
4. Pheonix	Hindi, English	Annual	Rewari	Regular
5. Rewari Times	Hindi	Weekly	Rewari	Regular
6. Tridhara	Hindi, English	Bi-annual	Narnaul	Regular

The literate persons and other educated classes generally subscribe to the newspapers and periodicals published outside the district.

CHAPTER XIX

PLACES OF INTEREST

The places of historical note and religious importance in the district are described below :

ATELI (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

The town lies at 28° 16' latitude and 76° 16' longitude. It is situated on Rewari-Ajmer railway line (western railways), 16 kilometres from Narnaul and 38 kilometres from Rewari. This place has come to lime-light due to its famous grain market and slate-stone hillocks. On account of the abundance of slate-stone in the hillocks of Bihali and Bajar, a slate factory is being run here. The slates are supplied to other parts of the country and even to some foreign countries.

The town covers an area of 0.65 square kilometre. The population of the town was 1,937 in 1971. The total number of houses was 293. This shows that it is just like a village.

There is a Sanjay College and two schools, viz. Government High School for boys and girls with their primary section. The other places of public utility include a Co-operative bank, a Punjab National Bank, a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and an office of the Block Development and Panchayat Officer.

BAWAL (BAWAL TAHSIL)

Bawal, being a tahsil headquarters, lies at 28° 04' latitude and 78° 35' longitude. It is situated on the Rewari and Alwar Railway line (western railways), 16 kilometres from Rewari. Delhi-Jaipur national highway passes through the boundary of the town.

Bawal is an ancient town. Founded in 1205 *Samvat* by Rao Sainsmal, a Chauhan Rajput of Mandhan (Alwar district), it was named by him after Bawalia, the *got* of his Purohit. Bhuga, his descendent, greatly enlarged it and it came to be known as Bhuga ka Bawal. The Gujar community of this town claims descent from Bhuga. Eventually it fell into the possession of the Nawab of Jhajjar. Due to his participation in the Independence Movement against Britishers in 1857, he was hanged and his territory was divided among the Sikh Chiefs. The ruler of Nabha got Bawal and other adjoining areas for his services rendered to the British. He retained the territory till Independence (1947).

Under the Rajas of Nabha, the town was extended to a great extent. The Katra Bazar was built in 1917 *Samvat* and a fort was founded in *Samvat* 1932. The other historical buildings were constructed during that regime. Some state troops were quartered in the stone-fort of Bawal.

Area and Population.—The town covers an area of 0.41 square kilometre and its population was 6,529 in 1971. On the basis of 1971 Census, it had 876 houses.

The educational institutions include Janata College (now Government College), Government Girls High School, Government Higher Secondary School, Jawahar Lal Janata High School and New Modern Public High School.

The other places of public utility are : a branch of Syndicate Bank, Co-operative Bank, eight bedded primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and dry vegetable research centre. Besides, there are offices of Tahsildar, Block Development and Panchayat Officer and Block Education Officer.

BAGOT (MAHENDRAGARH TAHSIL)

It is religiously a very important place and is situated at a distance of 25 kilometres from Mahendragarh. There is a famous Shiva temple here. A big fair is held on the eve of Shiva-Ratri in the month of Sawan. A large number of people come here from far and wide to worship the idol of Lord Shiva.

As per their vows taken earlier and their desires having been fulfilled, the devotees go to Hardwar a week before the fair to bring Ganga water in two small pitchers known as *Kawars*. They travel on foot during the whole return journey from Hardwar to Bagot. They do not place these *kawars* on the earth, as is believed that by doing so the sacred water contained therein will become impure.

On reaching Bagot, they sprinkle Ganga water over the stone idol of Shiva and offer worship throughout the day by singing hymns and *bhajans* in his eulogy.

BAMANWAS (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

The village is situated at a distance of 25 kilometres from Narnaul in south-west direction on Haryana-Rajasthan border. It is famous mainly for the temple of Baba Rameshwar Dass. This temple has been built on the land of village Bamanwas where as the main wall of the temple makes the border of the village Tibba Basai of Rajasthan.

The huge temple was built by Baba Rameshwar Dass. Since 1963, the construction work of this temple has been continuously done from time to

time. Consequently it has become one of the greatest temples of this area. The temple has a very spacious hall having beautifully decorated walls and marble flooring where thousands of devotees can sit at a time. Beautiful marble idols of gods and goddesses have been installed in the hall and in numerous different rooms around it. On the right side of the main temple, there is a beautiful shiva temple in the premises of which huge stone image of Nandi (length of about 25 feet; height of about 15 feet and width of about 20 feet) has been installed. In this temple itself a unique Shiv Linga having a height of about 10 feet stands installed besides other images of Lord Shiva. On the walls of the temple the preachings of the Gita, the Ramayana and other religious epics are written. The painted idols on walls and marble are unique. The idol of Lord Hanuman on the main entrance of the temple is so huge (having a height of 40 feet approximately) that probably it has no comparison in Northern India.

The people of Haryana and Rajasthan have great devotion for Baba Rameshwar Dass. The devotees from all over India (mainly from Calcutta, Bombay, Ahmedabad, Delhi and Hyderabad and many other cities) come for having a glimpse of the image of Baba and due to the help rendered by these devotees, this huge temple could be raised. The Baba came to this place in the beginning of 1963 and the construction work of this temple was started. The people of Bamanwas made available the land for the temple to the Baba. Thereafter, the amenities like electricity, water-supply and roads were provided. Both Haryana and Rajasthan Governments have constructed metalled roads in their respective areas up to this temple. A bus service of Haryana Roadways is also available from Narnaul bus stand to the temple.

Before the construction of this temple, Baba Rameshwar Dass had changed many places. In the initial stage he lived alongwith his Guru, Shri Nand Brahmchari at Shiv Kund located at the ridge of Dhosi. After the death of his Guru he got constructed a temple at village Bighopur in Narnaul Sub-Division and lived there.

Thereafter, the Baba came to this place (Bamanwas) and got this temple constructed. A big fair is held annually on the occasion of Ram Navmi when lakhs of devotees from various parts of the country participate. The most peculiar feature of the temple is that no cash donations are accepted there.

BHARAWAS (REWARI TAHSIL)

But for its past history, the place has nothing to attract the visitors. After the annexation of Gurgaon (1803), the headquarters of civil officers of the district were at Bharawas. Gurgaon was then a cavalry station to check the troops of Begum Samru of Jharsa. After the cession of the Ajmer

territory, the Bharawas force was transferred to Nasirabad and civil officers were shifted to Gurgaon in 1821¹.

DHOSI HILL (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

About eight kilometres west of Narnaul town, the hill is located near the villages Thana and Kultajpur. This hill has acquired a country wide fame as it is believed that Chavan Rishi practised penance here for many years. On the top of this hill a saucer shaped plain surface is strewn with its ruins of a hill fortress, probably built by King Naunkaran of Bikaner. A temple dedicated to Chavan Rishi decorates the hill. In the memory of Chavan Rishi, a big fair is held on the occasion of Somavati Amavas. Born in Bhirgu dynasty, Chavan is said to be the founder of Bhargava community. The Bhargavas of Haryana are also known as Dhosar. The celebrated warrior-general, Hemu, was a Dhosar (Brahman).

This place is considered most sacred and is regarded as Tirtha. A Shiva temple, tank and a well exist on the hill. The water of the tank and the well is regarded sacred as that of the Ganga and the Yamuna. People come here from far and wide to have *darshan* of the image of Chavan Rishi. After having a bath in the tank, people consider themselves lucky and free from past sins. In this tank separate *ghats* for taking bath exist for men and women. A devotee has to climb 457 stairs of the Dhosi hill via village Thana. The people also go up the Dhosi hill via village Kultajpur through *Khura* (plain stairs) and take bath in the Shiva Kund². There is a 5-6 feet long wall alongwith the stair-way. One can easily go up the hill with the support of this wall. On the Dhosi hill the other religious spots of interest are *Panch Tirathi* and *Suraj Kund*.

There are two temples on the top of the hill—one about 250 years old and the other about 100 years old. In the main temple, the idols of Chavan Rishi, Sukanya, Krishna and Radha stand installed. Besides, an *asht dhatu* idol of Lord Vishnu lies on *Shesh Shayya* posture. At some distance from the temple, there still exists a *ghufa* (cave) where the Rishi is said to have performed *tapsya*.

It is said that the Rishi used to take a special type of herb known as Chavan Prash. This herb, widely believed, is very much common here on the hill. Due to constant use of this herb, Rishi maintained his body well for a longer period. It is understood that after his name, a medicine known as Chavan Prash has become very common and popular throughout the country.

1. Gurgaon District Gazetteer, 1910, p. 28.

2. Near Shiv Kund, a Sanskrit School (Shri Nand Brahmchari Sanskrit Vidyalaya) has been functioning for the last about 60 years. On an average, it has 10 students on its roll.

GOKALGARH (REWARI TAHSIL)

The place is situated at a distance of 3 kilometres from Rewari town. In the past, the ruler of Rewari, Rao Gujar Mal, during the time of Aurangzeb, was granted the titles of Rai Bahadur and Commander of five thousand and the right to govern the *parganas* of Narnaul and Hisar. He erected forts at Gurawada and Gokal Garh. He also minted coinage known as Gokal *Sicca* (rupees) here and these were in circulation at Farukhnagar at the time of the Independence Movement of 1857.

KAMANIA (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

This is a small village. It is at a distance of 10 kilometres from Narnaul. Due to its Ram Mandir, it carries a special religious significance. Shiv Ratri fair is held here every year.

KANTI (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

The village is situated at a distance of 8 kilometres from Ateli Railway Station. Earlier its name was Kanehri. It is located within a hill from one side to other. It is a Meo village and there is a fort of Meos on the hill. The place was conquered by some Rajput warriors of the nearby village and most of the Meos were killed and thus the name of the village became Kanti from Kanehri. It was a part of Jhajjar state. Due to the participation of the Nawab of Jhajjar in the Independence Movement against Britishers in 1857, the village alongwith other areas of the Nawab was given to the ruler of Nabha as gift. During the Nabha regime it was a tahsil headquarters, having tahsil office, *thana* and *sarai*. Afterwards, the *thana* and other offices were transferred to Ateli being the nearest railway station.

Two great saints named as Baba Narsingh Dass and Baba Ganesh Dass were born in this village. It is said that there was no child of Raja Hari Singh of Nabha. The Raja was blessed with a son and a daughter by the grace of Baba Narsingh Dass. The son was named Tikla by the saint who later became the ruler of Nabha named as Tika Singh. Raja Hari Singh built a temple of this Baba with a *smadh* of marble stone and one tank, at the bottom of the hill for the benefit of villagers. Both the temple and the tank are worth seeing and there is a small rest house in the temple. Baba is worshipped by the people of this area and a big fair is held at *smadh* of the Baba on Basant Panchami. The other saint Baba Ganesh Dass was also very famous and a big fair is also held near his *samadh* on *sankranti*. *Samadh* of Baba Narsingh Dass was on the list of very important temples of the erstwhile Nabha State.

Area and Population.—The area covered by the village is 3 square kilometres and it had a population of 2,864 in 1971. The number of houses was

1,031. There are government high school, government primary girls school, a veterinary hospital and a primary health centre.

KUND (REWARI TAHSIL)

Kund, a small village, has a railway station. It has a rich industrial potential as the slate stone found here has a world market. The slate stone mined in Kund-Ateli range of the Mahendragarh district has great demand in Middle-East countries, Australia, West Germany and Indonesia.

In addition to the above chief features, there are certain temples which carry religious importance. A few fairs also attract the people from other areas.

KANINA (MAHENDRAGARH TAHSIL)

It lies at 28° 12' latitude and 76° 18' longitude. It is situated on Rewari-Bikaner railway line and is at a distance of 17 kilometres from Mahendragarh. It is also connected by road with Rewari and Mahendragarh. Previously, this area was under the possession of the ruler of Nabha. It is an important grain market.

Area and Population.—The area occupied by the town is 2.36 square kilometres and it had a population of 5,875 in 1971. The number of houses as per 1971 Census was 874.

There are two schools, viz. a government girls high school and a government higher secondary school. The places of public utility include a primary health centre, a veterinary hospital and the office of the Block Development and Panchayat Officer.

MAHENDRAGARH (MAHENDRAGARH TAHSIL)

Mahendragarh (previously known as Kanaud), the headquarters town of Mahendragarh tahsil, lies at latitude 28° 06' and longitude 76° 08'. It is at a height of 265 metres from sea level.

The first name of this town was Kanaud which was traditionally driven from the name of Kanaudia Brahman group that started living here during the time of Babar. The details about the origin of the name are given in Chapter-I 'General'.

Old History of the town.—According to *Phulkian States Gazetteer*, 1904, the town was founded by Malik Mahdud Khan, a servant of Babar and was inhabited, in the beginning, by the Brahmans of Kanaudia group. It remained a *pargana* of Narnaul under the Mughal Emperors, but later on it was conquered by a Thakur of Jaipur, who in turn was expelled by Nawab Najaf

Quli Khan, the great minister of Delhi Court under Shah Alam. On his death his widow maintained her independence in the fortress, but in 1792 Scindia General, De Boigne killed her in the battle. Mahendragarh then became the principal stronghold of Appa Khande Rao. The fort of Mahendragarh is said to have been built by the Marathas. It eventually became a possession of the British by whom it was granted to the Nawab of Jhajjar. By a *sanad* of 1861, the *pargana* of Mahendragarh was granted by the British Government to Narendra Singh, the then ruler of Patiala State.

Area and Population.—The town occupies an area of 9.71 square kilometres. According to the Census of 1971, it had a population of 11,496 and there were 1,737 houses in the town.

Education and Culture.—There are two high/higher secondary schools, 4 primary schools and a government college. It has three industrial training institutes. There is, however, only one cinema house.

Other facilities.—There is a civil hospital with 25 beds. Besides, X-ray facilities are also available here. In addition, the town has a veterinary hospital. Punjab National Bank, State Bank of Patiala and Central Co-operative Bank extend banking facilities. The offices of Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), Assistant Registrar, Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Tahsildar and Divisional Forest Officer are located here.

Communication.—There is a small bus-stand which is located at a central place. The town is connected by road with other important cities, viz. Narnaul, Rewari, Charkhi Dadri, Delhi and Chandigarh. It has a small railway station on Rewari-Bikaner railway line.

Religious spots.—Two religious spots—Brahmchari Ashram and Modawali need special mention. In the month of Sawan, people bring sacred water from Hardwar and sprinkle over the idol of Lord Shiva in the temple of Modawali. This is known as *bethi* (sitting) *kawar*. During the back journey from Hardwar to Mahendragarh, they travel on foot.

Brahmchari Ashram is very important place from the religious point of view. The people come and participate in the religious get-together. In the early morning, people take bath and perform religious activities here.

Another place which carries religious importance is *bawri* (tank). Local people with a popular belief take bath here. Girls specially take bath on the eve of Teej festival.

MAHASAR(NARNAUL TAHSIL)

Jawala Devi fair is held in March-April when devotees and other persons worship the goddess Jawala. It is said that offerings of wine are

made by the devotees to the image of the goddess. Besides, the people visit the temple for performing the *mundan* ceremony of their babies.

It is obligatory and a social necessity for every newly married couple in the area to go there and bow their heads before the goddess for a happy and prosperous married life.

MANDOLA (MAHENDRAGARH TAHSIL)

Due to saint, Baba Kesria, this place is religiously very important. The saint is worshipped by local people with great reverence. A fair is also held in his memory on first September every year. It is said that a visit to this place cures a person of snake-bite.

NARNAUL (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

The town, being the seat of district headquarters, lies at 28° 02' latitude and 78° 06' longitude. It is at a height of 305 metres above sea level. It is situated on Ajmer-Rewari railway line and is at a distance of 135 kilometres from Delhi.

Narnaul seems to be an ancient town but its origin and ancient name are still shrouded in mystery. According to legend Narnaul town belongs to Mahabharata period, then known as Nar Rashtra. It is narrated in the Mahabharata that enroute to the Chambal Valley from Hastinapur, the youngest Pandava brother, Sahdev, gained control over this town. According to another tale the town was founded after clearing dense forests abounding with lions. Hence it came to be known as Nahar-naul (the fear of lions) or Nahar-haul (abode of lions) and gradually came to be known as Narnaul. Some people say that while digging the foundation of this town a *nag* (serpent) and a *naol* (mongoose) came out fighting. The people named the town as Nagnaol after this incident and later on it came to be known as Narnaul. According to yet another legend, Raja Laun of Bikaner who got this town built named it after the name of his wife, Narlaun.

Old history of the town.—In the beginning, the town was controlled by Jogis who performed many miracles. Till the advent of Islam, Rathor Rajputs ruled the town and the adjoining areas. A Muslim saint Hazarat Turkman came and settled here in the third decade of twelfth century. The Rathors had many skirmishes with the companions of Turkman, who himself was killed in 1137. Turkman is worshipped as a martyr by the Muslims. His tomb, in the heart of the town, had been visited by thousands of Muslim pilgrims in the past. From the time of Iltutmish Narnaul came again under the control of Muslims. But it had also been a scene of plunder many times at the hands of neighbouring Muslim Jagirdars.

Narnaul was also closely associated with the Sur-Afghans. Sher Shah's grand father, Ibrahim Khan, came here first. He got the town of Narnaul and surrounding villages from the then administrator of Firoze-i-Hisar to meet the expenses of his forty horse men. After his death Hasan Khan, father of Sher Shah Suri, the supplanter of Humayun, became the Jagirdar of Narnaul. After the Second Battle of Panipat, Akbar gifted this Jagir to Shah Quli Khan Mahram who arrested Hemu, the famous warrior general of Rewari.

At Akbar's time Narnaul had a mint (Taksal). To effect reforms in mint, Akbar visited Narnaul along with Raja Todar Mal and Khawaja Shah Mansur. The Jalali coin was issued by Akbar from Narnaul. Birbal also used to visit this town. Birbal's Chatta stands till this day reminding the visits of Birbal, one of the nine jewels (Nav Rattan) of the great Mughal, Akbar.

During the time of Aurangzeb, the Satnami Sadhus revolted against the suppression caused by the Muslim Jagirdar. The revolt took the form of a serious communal riot. Satnamis after killing the Muslim Faujdar occupied the town. The imperial forces stationed here took to their heels. To quell this riot Aurangzeb himself had to come with a large contingent.

With the disintegration of Mughal empire after the death of Aurangzeb, a Thakur of Jaipur annexed Narnaul but soon he lost it to the French General, De-Boigne. Later Murtza Khan Bharach got the Jagirdari of Narnaul. In his lineage Abdur Rahman, Nawab of Jhajjar raised a banner of revolt against the British in 1857. After the First War of Indian Independence, 1857, he along with some co-patriots was hanged. Narnaul was there after gifted to the ruler of Patiala, Narender Singh, for rendering loyal services to the Britishers.

Narnaul according to Latif's *Safarnama* was a blessed place from which the world (*aalme*), i.e. the whole country benefited. It was an unparalleled place on earth, (*chashm afrida chuneen gai na deeda*). It was the cleanest place and its cleanliness was preserved with jealousy by keeping exceptional care and watch thereabout. Latif compares the city with heaven itself. Latif, a noted scholar stayed here during 17th century for three days and nights and felt extremely happy on having a chance to do so. Quli Khan built a beautiful garden also near the palace. Latif compares this garden with *Bagh-e-Aram* (garden of paradise).

Narnaul is replete with historical monuments like Ibrahim Khan Suri's tomb, tomb of Shah Wilayat, Sarai Mukand Das, Pobianwali mosque, Dargah Sheikh Miran, Takhat Wali Baoli, Shah Quli Khan's tomb, Hargopal talab, Shah Quli Khan's Jal Mahal, Paltian-Ki-Masjid and *Chhatta*

Rai Mukand or Chhatta Birbal and some temples. A brief description of some of the monuments are as under :—

1. **Jal Mahal or Khan Sarowar.**—The art and Mughal style of structure of the Jal Mahal are beautifully designed by the builders. These are unique in style and construction. The walls of Jal Mahal were constructed with lime in those days but even today one can see the brightness of the walls. This pleasant building 'whose water and air are refreshing like paradise', was got constructed by Shah Quli 'Khan in 1591 A.D. This is stated in an epigraph set up there. Standing in the centre of a large tank, now dried up, and approached through a causeway, this 'pleasure house' like a small palace in a tank is surmounted by five kiosks, the larger being in the centre and the remaining at the corners.

The under side of the recess, a arched passage, enhances the beauty of the tank (dried up) and gives it a fairy land charm. Of the large garden, which was laid out around this *baradari* exists no trace here now.

2. **Mausoleum of Ibrahim Khan.**—Sher Shah Suri (1538-46 A.D.) had his tomb built in honour of his able grandfather, Ibrahim Khan, who served as an officer of the Lodhis at Narnaul. The monument was constructed under the supervision of Sheikh Ahmed Niyazi. There are two small graves along with the grave of Ibrahim Khan inside the building. The tomb is a perfect example of the square tomb of the Pathan style characterised by its massive outlines, exquisite details, and pleasing interplay of colours. The creation of a high terrace, double storey simulation, bold archs, low domes, beautiful kiosks on curved pillars, selender turrets (*guldastas*), and elegant merions, give it balanced strength and dexterity. The use of deep red, grey and white stone encaustic tile-work, painted ceiling with excellent brush work and subtle lapidary give it a richness which is unique among such buildings in Haryana ¹.

3. **Tomb of Shah Wilayat.**—The tomb of Shah Wilayat stands beside the mausoleum of Ibrahim Khan. It is a big tomb-cum-collegiate complex, which incorporates within it a long tradition of architecture ranging from the Tughluq to the British period. Much of its originality is marred by later constructions. Originally the tomb and the adjoining complex were constructed during the reign of Feroz Shah Tughluq. The author of Gulzar says that the eastern colonnades and the dome were erected by Alam Khan Mewari (in A.H. 760, A.D. 1357), and part of the enclosure was also erected by him. The old portion has all the stern simplicity and grandeur of the

1. *Indian Archaeology*, 1976-77 : Roof terrace of the tomb was properly water tightened after removing the dead concrete and laying fresh cement lime concrete. Missing rubble stone wall of the fore court of the tomb was restored and earth filling was done to maintain the level.

Tughluq style of architecture. The archs have the ogee curves after the fashion of the time. The tomb itself is surmounted by a hemispherical dome, crested by a finial of the Pathan style. The interior of the dome is a perfect square and has some paintings, which are of much later date. Its two enclosures were constructed towards the end of Mughal time. A part was even added in the British period.

The inscription in Persian verse over the doorway registers the date of demise of the Turkish saint in a chronogram as well as in figures, i.e. A.H. 531.

4. **Chor Gumbad.**—On account of its eminent location, isolated identity and haunting appearance, it can hardly escape the attention of a visitor to the town of Narnaul. It is, therefore, called the 'signboard of Narnaul'. It looks like a haunted fairy place of the old folk tales.

It was constructed by Jamal Khan, an Afghan, as his tomb. Though the date of the construction is not known, the pointed archs with the S-curves as well as other details of construction, put it co-eval with the tomb complex of Shah Wilayat. Today, there are graves inside. It is said that for long it remained a hide out for thieves and highwaymen and that may account for its present name, chor gumbad.

It is a big square monument with single chamber inside. It seems double storeyed from the outside, as the second level is obtained by way of providing an open verandah running around. The wide low dome and ogee archs and some other features of architecture, place it in point of time with the tomb of Shah Nizam and old parts of the adjoining Madarsa built in 1357 A.D. in the Tughluq style.

The passage running in the thickness of the walls may baffle the visitor, with its twists and turns. It is, therefore, called 'Bhul-Bhullaiyan', a maze.

5. **Chhatta Rai Mukand Das (Birbal Ka Chhatta).**—This spacious building, built by Ray-i-Rayan Mukand Dass, the Diwan of Narnaul, during the reign of Shah Jahan (1628-58 A.D.) is dexterously planned and embellished, though its exterior is unostentatious and drab. It is a five storeyed structure with several halls, rooms and pavillions. The entire planning and the remnants of the interior decoration show ambitious intentions. The extensive open terrace on the south, light elliptical pavillions on different levels, halls on pillars and running verandah around a central court, once adorned with a marble fountain, impart to it spaciousness and light. The profuse use of marble for veneering and pillars and brackets, provided with artificial cataracts and drains, might have been cosy retreat during the tropical summers.

In the south-eastern corner on the terrace, there is a dilapidated well, from which the water was raised into reservoirs, at various levels, through the Persian wheel to supply all the storeys. An exquisite isolated gateway-complex, well provided with projecting balconies and marble veneering stands a few metres to the west of the palace. This is said to have been the main entrance to the complex. The intervening space is now being separated by jerry-built modern constructions.

This building is reputed with three underground floors. It is, however, possible to visit only one and it was remarkable provision for natural light. Legend has it that the building is equipped with four underground tunnels leading to Jaipur, Mahendragarh, Delhi and Dhosi. People believe that a marriage party once went down the tunnel leading to Delhi and was not heard of again. It said that Akbar and Birbal visited this town and that is why Chhatta Rai Mukand Das is also popularly known as Chhatta of Birbal.

At a small distance from the Chhatta lies the Sarai Rai Mukand Das. The building bears an epigraph, which says that, during the reign of Shah Jahan, Rai-Rayan Mukand Das, a servant of Nawab Asif Khan, built the lofty building of caravanserai under the super vision of Mehta Puran Mal Hari Dass.

6 **The Tomb, Garden and Tripolia of Shah Quli Khan.**—The Ain-i-Akbari and travelogue of Latif, tell us 'that Shah Quli Khan' had erected splend buildings, and large tanks dug and laid out beautiful gardens at Narnaul. Later, he had built for himself a fine mausoleum².

He laid out a beautiful garden and named it Aram-i-Kauser, of which today only the enclosure walls, a well and the gateway complex stand. Inside this garden, which is currently under cultivation, stands his tomb built in 1578 A.D. It is a small but a fine monument, constructed in bluish grey and red stones, on an octagonal plan, which was another variation of the tomb style of the Pathans.

The Tripolia Darwaza was constructed in 1589 A.D. as main entrance to his garden by Shah Quli Khan.

1. Shah Quli Khan was a trusted nobleman of Akbar. He was made Governor of the Punjab. It is said that the Emperor, out of goodwill towards him, admitted him to his female apartments, and he, in turn, out of respect for the zanana, got himself castrated. He died at Agra in 1675 A.D.

2. Indian Archaeology, 1976-77 : Fresh cement lime plaster was provided on the extrados of the tomb after removing the dead plaster and grouting the cracks through which water was leaking and damaging ceiling and the structure. The terrace around the dome was also repaired. One of the heavy and large stones of the parapit, which was dislodged, was re-set in the original position. Stone slabs of the platform, which were sunken, were dismantled and re-set after providing a cushion of the cement lime concrete. The joints of the stone slabs were pointed.

7. **Tomb of Islam Quli Khan.**—Islam Quli Khan was a commander of 'Four Thousand' under Akbar. The tomb is a brick structure of no particular significance.

Besides the above places, the Sobha Sagar Talab and minaret Chamunda Devi temple and Modawala Shiva temple are attractive spots for tourists. During archaeological excavations a Jain temple has been found beneath a mosque. It means that during the Mughal period and especially during Aurangzeb's time the Jain temple was buried underground and a mosque was built on the resultant surface.

There are so many temples in the city. By seeing all these temples, this town can be called as the town of temples like Pushkar. Amongst these temples, two temples have great importance historically and religious point of view. Their details are as under :—

8. **Mandir Chamunda Devi.**—It is believed that Raja Naun Karan, the ruler of the area was a devotee of Chamunda Devi. He constructed a temple of the Devi at the bottom of a hill. This temple is in the heart of the city. After the fall of the regime of Raja Naun Karan, this area came under the control of the Mughals. They built a mosque named as Jama Masjid, the biggest *masjid* at Narnaul on the temple of Chamunda Devi. After Independence, the people of this town started digging and found the temple in torn condition. This temple is now one of the most important temples and is visited by the people of the town and a big fair is held on the occasion of Ram Naumi.

9. **Temple of Lord Shiva (famous as Modawala Mandir).**—The temple of Lord Shiva is situated at Narnaul-Rewari road near New Bus Stand. This is the only temple of this area where every member of the Hindu family comes for the worship of Lord Shiva and other Hindu deities. A big fair is held here on the occasion of Raksha Bandan.

A brief history of this temple is that there was a *khet* (agricultural land) and a man who was ploughing the land saw the *Shiv ling* during ploughing. He heard a voice during sleep that he is the Lord Shiva and a temple be constructed here for the benefit of the people. Thus, this temple was built and is now a place of worship. It is the firm belief of the people of the area that every desire is fulfilled by Lord Shiva provided if he is worshipped or named by heart.

Area and Population.—The area occupied by the town is 6.48 square kilometres. The population, according to 1971 Census, was 31,875. Since 1961, the population of the town rose by 33 per cent. There were 4,284 houses in the city.

Means of Communications.—The town being the district headquarters, is connected by road with the important cities such as Delhi, Hardwar, Mathura, Dabwali, Hisar, Jaipur, Ajmer, Patiala and Chandigarh. Besides post offices, there is a small telephone exchange.

Public Health Services.—There are two medical institutions, viz. Civil Hospital and T.B. Clinic. E.C.G. and X-ray facilities are also available. A Veterinary hospital also exists there.

Education and Entertainment Facilities.—There are five high and higher secondary schools. Two technical institutions; one for boys and other for girls provide technical education to the youths. In addition to a municipal park, there are two cinema houses—Prabhat and Gobind which provide entertainment to the residents.

Other Facilities.—P.W.D. Rest House, Irrigation Rest House, Sainik Rest House, Forest Rest House and Market Committee Rest House provide accommodation to the touring officials and other V.I.Ps. The dharmshalas also extend such facilities to the general public. State warehouse and consumer's store serve the people. There are eight banks in the city.

In olden times the town was famous for coloured legs of charpai, carpets, sarotas, embroidered shoes, brass *hukkas*, silver buttons, dyed clothes, white-wash and lime. The white-wash and lime are in abundance even today. There is also a marble factory at Narnaul which is also famous for stone-work. There is a big grain *mandi*.

NASIBPUR (NARNAUL TAHSIL)

The place is situated at a distance of 3 kilometres from Narnaul. This is the place where freedom fighters sacrificed their lives against Britishers for the sake of the country. There is a historic park laid out in the memory of freedom fighters. It is believed that the land of this place became red due to the blood of the freedom fighters.

REWARI (REWARI TAHSIL)

Location.—The town lies at 28° 12' north latitude and 76° 40' east longitude. It is at a distance of 83 kilometres from Delhi and 54 kilometres from Narnaul. It is at a height of 242 metres above sea level and is located on Delhi-Jaipur highway. The town is a sub-divisional and tahsil headquarters.

Area and Population.—The town occupies an area of 6.6 square kilometres. According to the Census of 1971, it had a population of 43,885 and during that period the number of houses was 6,379.

Old history of the town.—The town of Rewari is of great antiquity. The original site lies at some distance to the east of the present town and is still

called Budhi or 'Bur Rewari'. Tradition assigns its original foundation to Raja Karan Pal, son of Chattar Pal and nephew of the celebrated Prithvi Raj. The present town was, however, established by Raja Rao or Rawat around 1000 A.D. and named after his daughter, Rawati. In course of time the name corrupted to Rewari.

An old Muslim shrine indicates that the town came under the passing influence of Mahmud Ghazni. The shrine is associated with Sayyad Ibrahim Sahib 'Tees Hazari', who accompanied Ghazni during the invasion of India. Sayyad Ibrahim defeated Raja Daud Pal of Khole in a battle which took place about 21 kilometres from Rewari. However, Sayyad Ibrahim was, in turn, defeated by Anangpal, the Tunwar ruler.

During the period of the Delhi Sultanate, Rewari was relatively autonomous while its rulers continued to pay tribute to the rulers of Delhi. They were allowed to mint their own coins. Rewari shot into fame with Hemu, the celebrated general who fought Akbar in the Second Battle of Panipat.

During the time of Aurangzeb, Nand Ram, an Ahir of the neighbouring village of Bolni, was made the Governor of Rewari. His son, Rao Bal Kishan, fought for the emperor against Nadir Shah and was killed in the battle at Karnal in 1739. Another son, Rao Gujar Mal, governed Rewari for sometime and built several forts in the territory. His grand son fell fighting against Marathas and after his death this area was seized by Zaukhi Bakkal of Rewari, who in turn was attacked and put to death by Rao Tej Singh who established his power. He, later on, managed to get 58 villages from Lord Lake on *Istamari* tenure.

After the cession of Delhi Territory in 1803, Rewari was made over to Suraj Mal, Chief of Bharatpur, but three years later, in consequence of his disaffection, this area was resumed and given to Rao Tej Singh. In 1857, Rao Tula Ram, grand son of Rao Tej Singh, assumed the government of Rewari. He collected revenue, cast guns and raised a force with which he kept the turbulent Meos of neighbourhood in check. He watched the progress of events and finally when a British force advanced from Delhi, he with his cousin, General Gopal Deo, fought against the British. The State was confiscated and the biswadari of the town was presented to Rampat Sarogi, a wealthy banker, who remained loyal to the Britishers during the troublous times.

Rewari was ravaged frequently by the Sahibi stream which passes just 10 kilometres away from the town. Most of the water is brackish but it has not prevented Rewari from growing into a flourishing commercial centre. It was previously famous for its turbans, which were sold in large number in the princely states of Rajasthan. It is now famous for its utensil industry.

There are a number of temples¹ and memorials in the town. In the west of the town there exists a memorial of Rao Tula Ram, the noted freedom fighter. A fair is held in his memory in September every year. Another fair, known as Ram Ram fair, is held in honour of a saint who recited 'Ram Ram' through his nose. He lived in a cottage quite away from the town.

The important historical monuments in the town are described below :—

1. **Rao Tej Singh Tank.**—The tank (100-yard square) is situated near old tahsil office and it was built 160 years ago by Rao Tej Singh at a cost of Rs. 1,25,000.

2. **Lal Masjid.**—Built 400 years ago, the mosque is situated near old tahsil office. Its base is 31'x11' besides there are also two missionary makbras.

3. **Baghwala Tank** (142 square feet).—It is located near old tahsil office and it was built 300 years ago by Rao Gujar Mal of Rewari. It is dry now.

4. **Saravgi Temple.**—It is situated near old tahsil office. It is 103 years old and was built by Rampat and Sajan Kanvar, Saravgis. The flooring of the temple is made of marble and the archs of the roof are gilt traced. It is now used as a place of worship by Saravgis.

Another Saravgi temple, built 110 years ago, is situated near tahsil office. Ganga temple and Ganga mandir carry some religious importance.

Communication.—The town is the main junction of five railway lines. Due to this junction, it is known as the gateway of Rajasthan. The following are the five railway lines connecting it with other parts of the country :

1. Rewari—Delhi
2. Rewari—Alwar
3. Rewari—Ajmer
4. Rewari—Bikaner
5. Rewari—Bhatinda

1. Beautifully built Ghanteshwar Mahadev Mandir stands in the heart of the town. People visit this temple daily in large number. Beautiful idols of gods and goddesses decorate this temple. At the gate, Shivstuti composed by one Ali Hakesh stands written on a marble slab as under :—

*Ghanteshwar ghat me baje chandan ki ghanghor, Subhe sham darshan Kare log avate dor.
Log avate dor mach raha hai shor shehar Ke ander, Tere gun gawat tar gai guru
Gorakhnath Muchhander. Tum bane jog ki khan gyan ke kahtiya aap sumunder,
Shehar I ewari beech bano aap ko ik mandir. Sumru ghanteshwar Mahadev mhare
kabhi na aye khev.*

There is also a cross-net of roads which pass through the town. The town is connected by road with Rohtak, Gurgaon, Delhi, Jagadhri, Kotputali, Mahendragarh, Jui, Narnaul, Garhi Bolni, Behrod, Bawal, Tizara, Ferozpur, Palwal, Mathura, Chandigarh, Hardwar and Dabwali. There is a beautiful bus stand.

Health Facilities.—There is a civil hospital which has fifty beds. The facilities for X-ray and E.C.G. are available. Besides a maternity and Child health centre, a veterinary hospital is also located there.

Education and Entertainment Facilities.—There are 14 high and higher secondary schools and a large number of primary schools. It has become a main education centre in the area. This town has a number of colleges, which are run by private bodies. There are three cinema houses in the city.

Other Facilities.—There has been a big grain market since 1954. Due to the concentration of a large number of industrial units, it has become an industrial centre of the district. The utensils of brass and pottery are mainly exported to other countries.

The offices of Tahsildar, Treasury Officer, Sub-Divisional Officer (Civil), XEN (B&R), XEN (Public Health), Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Employment Officer, Block Education Officer and Divisional Forest Officer are located in the town.

RAMPURA(REWARI TAHSIL)

It is situated at a distance of 2 kilometres from Rewari. It was a residential headquarters of Rao Tula Ram, the famous freedom fighter. A Shaheedi Mela is annually held in the month of September to commemorate the death anniversary of Rao Tula Ram. The people come in a large number and visit the martyrs' memorial raised by the government.

Another seasonal and recreational fair is held in January-February at this village. This fair is associated with the death anniversary of Swami Parma Nand, the founder of Bhagwat Bhakti Ashram which is a charitable, religious and educational institution.

Another saint, Baba Kirpa Ram Dass is also remembered with great regards by the people. Havan-Kirtan and religious discourses are held at the Ashram. People come from far off places like Delhi, Gurgaon and the areas of Rajasthan and pay homage to the Baba.

SEHLONG(MAHENDRAGARH TAHSIL)

The place carries a religious significance. A *mela* (fair) is held in

January-February in memory of Khimag Devta. Popular belief is that any one suffering from leprosy gets cured by lighting a *jot* at the shrine.

GURAWADA(REWARI TAHSIL)

Standing over an ancient mound, the village lies 20 kilometres north of Rewari on Rewari—Jhajjar road.

Two inscriptions were found here engraved on rectangular column. The pillar is square at the base and is tapering towards the top. The upper part of the pillar is badly damaged and nothing can be said with certainty about the actual height. This pillar seems to have been part of some early medieval temple belonging to 9th century A.D. The script of both the inscriptions is northern Brahmi. Another inscription of Vishnuhari found on stone pillar records the death of one Vishnuhari in Saka 819. Vishnuhari is said to have left his earthly body while engrossed in the thoughts of Vishnu. Besides, two *sessasvi* sculptures, an icon of Ganesha, Mahisasura-Mardini and Parvati of medieval period have also been found. Door-jamb showing Kirtimukha of late medieval period has also been recovered from the site. It appears that Vishnu worship was very much prevalent in the region.

Mahendragarh and its surrounding area is known as the land of saints, *sadhus*, and *fakirs* since long past. The region is dotted with numerous *ashrams*, and prominent of them are as follows :—

Swarg Ashram, Noorgarh.—The *ashram* is located at Noorgarh, 26 kilometres from Rewari. The 74-year old Swami Somananda runs this *ashram* besides a free medical centre for the ill and injured from morning till evening. Many patients whose ailments have been declared incurable by leading hospitals visit this *ashram* for treatment.

Khole Ashram(Rewari tahsil).—The village is situated 33 kilometres west of Rewari on Rewari-Narnaul road. According to local traditions, prior to the invasion of Muhmud Ghazni, Dharam Pal was ruling the entire region and had a strong fort at the village. The remains of the fort can be seen even now.

A *ashram* is located at Khole. It is looked after by 87-year old Baba Bhairon Nath who has been living in open for the last 50 years not caring for the rain, sunshine or hailstorm. Persons of high position also visit this *ashram*.

Vedant Ashram, Seehma.—It is located at Seehma, 40 kilometres from Rewari. Swami Khetnath who looks after the *ashram*, is well-known for the social services for the last four decades. A high school, a veterinary hospital,

a girls high school and temples at Daroli Ahir, Ateli, Malda and Chhappar, a tank and a temple at Nimrana bear testimony to the social service rendered by him.

Bhagwat Sewa Ashram, Daroli.—It is located at Daroli, 28 kilometres from Rewari and is looked after by Swami Shradanda. The Swami has grown certain fruit trees like almond, apple and mango—something uncommon for this dry region.

Thousands of devotees visit these *ashrams* daily. They come from various parts of Haryana, Rajasthan, Delhi and several other regions.

Some monuments and better known places of worship or tourist interest (rural areas) are given in Table XIII of Appendix.

TABLE I
Frequency of Annual Rainfall in the District
(Data 1901-1950)

Range in mm.	No. of years	Range in mm.	No. of years
101—200	3	701—800	1
201—300	7	801—900	1
301—400	12	901—1000	0
401—500	12	1001—1100	0
501—600	8	1101—1200	1
601—700	5		

(a) Frequency of years in which the rainfall was in the range of 100 to 1200 mm. (b) Frequency of years in which the rainfall was in the range of 100 to 1200 mm.

Table

Normals and Extremes

Station	Number of years of data	Jan.	Feb.	March	April	May	June	July	August
Jatusana	50 (a)	11.7	11.9	8.1	3.1	10.4	42.7	117.1	103.6
	(b)	1.0	1.0	0.7	0.3	0.7	2.1	5.0	4.8
Rewari	50 (a)	17.0	12.5	11.9	4.8	13.2	47.5	148.8	135.1
	(b)	1.7	1.3	1.2	0.5	1.2	3.4	7.9	8.3
Khole	47 (a)	11.7	12.7	7.4	4.6	7.6	35.3	130.1	132.6
	(b)	0.9	0.9	0.7	0.3	0.5	1.7	5.2	5.4
Mahendragarh (district)	(a)	13.5	12.4	9.1	4.2	10.4	41.8	132.0	123.8
	(b)	1.2	1.1	0.9	0.4	0.8	2.4	6.0	6.2

(a) Normal rainfall in mm.

(b) Average number of rainy days (days with rain of 2.5 mm. or more)

-II
of Rainfall

Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Annual	Highest annual rainfall as % of normal and year**	Lowest annual rainfall as % of normal and year**	Heaviest rainfall in 24 hours*	
							Amount % (mm)	Date
74.4	6.9	1.3	3.6	394.8	259 (1917)	17 (1928)	370.8	1885, Aug. 12
2.6	0.4	0.1	0.4	19.1				
106.7	14.2	2.8	6.3	520.8	262 (1917)	31 (1918)	233.7	1885, Aug. 13
4.7	0.8	0.3	0.6	31.9				
92.5	8.9	1.5	3.3	448.2	262 (1908)	26 (1937)	203.2	1917, Sep. 21
3.2	0.4	0.1	0.2	19.5				
91.2	10.0	1.9	4.4	454.6	244 (1917)	30 (1918)		
3.5	0.5	0.2	0.4	23.5				

*Based on all available data upto 1977.

**Years given in brackets.

TABLE III

The bunds and flood-protection schemes as on March 31, 1978

Name	Length in (feet)	Catchment area	Name of the village to be saved
Narnaul dam	8,397	51.8 Sq. km.	Narnaul town
Meghot Binza bund	7,500	1.495 acres	Meghot Binza
Dhani Chimawali bund	160	820.25 acres	Dhani Chimawali
Chhilro Ki-Dhani bund	4,050	5.70 Sq. km.	Chilro-ki Dhani
Chhapra Bibipur bund	4,165	15.02 Sq. km.	Chhapra Bibipur
Bhamanwas Kheta bund	8,500	4.92 Sq. km.	Desor Development Scheme
Dhancholi bund	2,350	7.21 Sq. km.	Dhancholi
Dholera bund	6,000	24.28 Sq. km.	Dholera
Ganwari Jat bund	1,125	2.07 Sq. km.	Ganwari Jat
Basirpur bund	700	18.03 Sq. km.	Basirpur
Ghataser bund	3,900	4.46 Sq. km.	Ghataser
Niamatpur bund	600	0.40 Sq. km.	Niamatpur
Ganiar bund	1,950		Ganiar
Masit bund	1,600	0.78 Sq. km.	Masit
Balana bund	2,400	3.32 Sq. km.	Balana
Pali bund	7,350		Pali
Kadma bund	4,600	3.24 Sq. km.	Kadma
Jatusana bund	6,000	620 Acres	Jatusana
Basduda bund	8,850	620 Acres	Basduda
Bawana bund	175	300 Acres	Bawana
Rajgarh bund	1,360	Nil	Rajgarh
Looni and Saloni bund	Saloni

TABLE IV

Veterinary Hospitals and Veterinary Dispensaries as on March 31, 1978

S. No. 1	Location 2	Tahsil 3
Veterinary Hospitals		
1.	Mahendragarh	Mahendragarh
2.	Kanina	Do
3.	Nangal Sirohi	Do
4.	Bhagot	Do
5.	Mundia Khera	Do
6.	Pali	Do
7.	Narnaul	Narnaul
8.	Ateli	Do
9.	Sarohibhali	Do
10.	Seehma	Do
11.	Nizampur	Do
12.	Bachhod	Do
13.	Dochana	Do
14.	Banihari	Do
15.	Rewari	Rewari
16.	Khole	Do
17.	Jatusana	Do
18.	Gurawada	Do
19.	Dharuhera	Do
20.	Bawal	Bawal
Veterinary Dispensaries		
1.	Bassai	Mahendragarh
2.	Sihor	Do
3.	Sunira	Do
4.	Kanti	Narnaul
5.	Bighopur	Do
6.	Niamatpur	Do
7.	Nangal Durgu	Do

1	2	3
8.	Bolni	Rewari
9.	Khori	Do
10.	Dahina	Do
11.	Lisan	Do
12.	Dharan	Bawal
Mobile Dispensary		
1.	Mahendragarh District Mobile Dispensary	
Check Posts		
1.	Nizampur	Narnaul
2.	Ateli	Do
Sheep Centres		
1.	Pali	Mahendragarh
2.	Nangal Durgo	Narnaul
3.	Khole	Rewari
4.	Kanwi	Narnaul

TABLE V

Artificial Insemination Centres and Stockman Centres under the Key Village Scheme, as on 31-3-1978

Artificial Insemination Centres	Stockman Centre	
	Location	Tahsil
1. Narnaul	1. Mandi	Narnaul
	2. Khatoli Jat	Do
	3. Raghunathpura	Do
	4. Hamidpur	Do
	5. Salarpur	Do
	6. Sureli	Do
2. Rewari	1. Bikaner	Rewari
	2. Bhudpur	Do
	3. Gindokhar	Do
	4. Bodia Kamalpur	Do
	5. Nagli Godha	Do
	6. Saharanwas	Do
3. Bawal	1. Sulkha	Bawal
	2. Mangaleshwar	Do
	3. Karnawas	Rewari
	4. Tankri	Bawal
	5. Nechana	Bawal
	6. Khandewra	Bawal
4. Jatusana	1. Kanwali	Rewari
	2. Motla Kalan	Rewari
	3. Lala Pohrai	Do
	4. Berli Kalan	Do
	5. Nangal Pathani	Rewari
	6. Mandola	Mahendragarh

TABLE
HARYANA KHADI AND VILLAGE INDUSTRY

Statement showing the disbursement position from 1973-74 to

Sr. No.	Name of the Industry	1973-74		1974-75	
		Grant	Loans	Grant	Loans
		(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1.	N.E.O. Soap	—	—	750	3,750
2.	C. & B	—	—	6,700	7,800
3.	P.C.P.I.	1,200	15,000	—	—
4.	Fibre Industry	—	—	2,450	2,000
5.	Leather	1,200	2,000	2,350	4,350
6.	Village Oil	—	1,000	—	—
7.	Lime	3,600	6,000	3,600	10,000
8.	Village Pottery	—	—	4,550	8,550
9.	Gobar Gas	—	—	—	—
Grand Total :		6,000	24,000	20,400	36,450

—VI

BOARD, CHANDIGARH (NOW AT PANCHKULA)

1977-78 in the Mahendragarh district

1975-76		1976-77		1977-78	
Grant	Loans	Grant	Loans	Grant	Loans
(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)	(Rs.)
1,500	31,150	750	3,750	1,500	4,750
—	49,000	2,400	23,600	2,150	82,850
—	—	500	1,500	3,500	10,500
—	—	—	—	200	8,700
2,950	6,450	17,595	10,875	5,790	45,250
—	—	—	—	—	—
3,000	25,000	4,200	36,300	4,150	38,000
35,750	63,250	45,500	80,500	37,050	82,550
—	—	—	—	—	—
43,200	1,74,850	70,945	1,56,525	54,340	2,72,600

TABLE VII

Joint Stock Banks

Name of the bank	Branches	Year when opened
1. State Bank of Patiala	1. Narnaul	1941
	2. Mahendragarh	1943
2. State Bank of India	1. Rewari	1958
	2. Jatusana	1977
	3. Mahendragarh	1977
	4. Dharuhera	1977
3. Punjab National Bank	1. Kanina Mandi	1970
	2. Narnaul	1951
	3. Mahendragarh	1974
	4. Ateli	1970
	5. Nangal Chaudhry	1972
	6. Kanwali	1977
	7. Nangal Sirohi	1975
	8. Rewari	1945
	9. Gudha	1975
4. New Bank of India	1. Narnaul	1973
	2. Ateli Mandi	1977
	3. Qutabpuri Jagir	1976
	4. Kund (Kundal)	1971
5. Central Bank of India	1. Narnaul	1973
	2. Dahina	1977
	3. Rewari	1945
6. Syndicate Bank	1. Bawal	1970
	2. Dharuhera	1972
	3. Rewari	1971
7. Laxmi Commercial Bank	1. Buroli	1977
	2. Palahwas Guawra	1977
	3. Rewari	1976
8. Oriental Bank of Commerce	1. Narnaul	1974
	2. Rewari	1973
9. Union Bank of India	1. Khori	1976
10. State Bank of Bikaner and Jaipur	1. Rewari	1976

TABLE VIII

Rest Houses

Name of the Rest House	Number of Suites	Reservation authority
P.W.D. Rest House, Narnaul	5	Executive Engineer, PWD(B&R), Narnaul
P.W.D. Rest House, Rewari	4	Executive Engineer, PWD(B&R), Narnaul
P.W.D. Rest House, Mahendragarh	3	Executive Engineer, PWD(B&R), Narnaul
Haryana State Electricity Board, Rest House, Narnaul	2	Sub-Station, Engineer, Haryana State Electricity Board, Narnaul
Haryana State Electricity Board, Rest House, Rewari	2	Sub-Station, Engineer, Haryana State Electricity Board, Rewari
Haryana State Electricity Board Rest House, Mahendragarh	2	Sub-Station, Engineer, Haryana State Electricity Board, Mahendragarh
Market Committee Rest House, Narnaul	2	Secretary, Market Committee, Narnaul
Market Committee Rest House, Rewari	3	Secretary, Market Committee, Rewari
Market Committee Rest House, Mahendragarh	1	Secretary, Market Committee, Mahendragarh
Market Committee Rest House, Kanina	1	Secretary, Market Committee, Kanina
Market Committee Rest House, Ateli	1	Secretary, Market Committee, Ateli
Panchayat Samiti Rest House, Nangal Chaudhry	2	Block Development and Panchayat Officer, Nangal Chaudhry
Forest Rest House, Golwa	2	Divisional Forest Officer, Mahendragarh
Sainik Rest House, Narnaul	4	Secretary, Zila Sainik Board, Narnaul
Sainik Rest House, Rewari	3	Secretary, Zila Sainik Board Narnaul/ Sub Divisional Officer (Civil) Rewari
Sainik Rest House, Mahendragarh	3	Secretary, Zila Sainik Board, Narnaul/ Sub Divisional Officer(Civil), Mahendragarh
H.A.U. Rest House, Bawal	2	Scientist Incharge Dry Land Agriculture Research Farm, H.A.U. Unit, Bawal
Civil Rest House, Kund (Kundal)	2	Deputy Commissioner, Narnaul
Civil Rest House, Bawal	3	Deputy Commissioner, Narnaul
Jungle Babbler Motel and Restaurant, Dharuhera (on Delhi-Alwar-Rewari-Jaipur Road)	4(2 Air-conditioned 2 airconditioned double bed rooms & 2 Non-air-conditioned rooms).	Delux set is booked by Tourist Officer Haryana Government Chanderlok Building, Janpath, New Delhi and other suites by the Supervisor at Dharuhera.

TABLE IX

Dharmsalas in the district as on March 31, 1978

Name of the Dharmsala	Number of persons to be accommodated	Location
Dharmsala Mangori, Narnaul	200	100 yards from Narnaul Railway Station
Dharmsala Mani Ram—Gordhan Dass, Narnaul	200	150 yards from Narnaul Railway Station
Dharmsala Chiryawalon, Narnaul	200	200 yards from Narnaul Railway Station
Dharmsala Lala Moti Lal, Narnaul	50	Near T.B. Hospital, Narnaul
Dharmsala Bahadur Singh, Narnaul	200	
Dharmsala Askoliwalon, Narnaul	100	Purani Mandi, Narnaul
Dharmsala Ram Kishan, Narnaul	50	Purani Mandi, Narnaul
Dharmsala Lala Musaddi Lal, Narnaul	60	Near Paniganj, Narnaul
Dharmsala Dhindasir, Narnaul	100	Mohalla Purani Sarai, Narnaul
Dharmsala Brahamin, Narnaul	—	Mohalla Chanderwar, Narnaul
Dharmsala Lala Jinda Mal-Hira Lal, Narnaul	200	Mohalla Missarwara, Narnaul
Dharmsala Chhatriya Sabha, Narnaul	70	Mohalla Missarwara, Narnaul
Dharmsala Aggarwal, Narnaul	50	Nai Mandi, Narnaul
Dharmsala Saini, Narnaul	50	Mohalla Peer Aaga, Narnaul
Dharmsala Jangli Mal-Parbhati Lal, Narnaul	40	Near Paniganj, Narnaul
Dharmsala Kishan Sahai, Narnaul	30	Mohalla Darugagar, Narnaul
Dharmsala Chaudhry Har Parshad, Narnaul	200	Mohalla Sila Khana, Narnaul
Dharmsala Jain, Rewari	100	Mohalla Pather Ghati, Rewari
Dharmsala Shri Ram, Rewari	80	Mohalla Sanghiwara, Rewari
Dharmsala Miyanwali, Rewari	90	Mohalla Kaziwara, Rewari
Dharmsala Aggarwal, Rewari	60	Mohalla Pathar Ghati, Rewari
Dharmsala Lala Makhan Lal, Rewari	50	Railway Road, Rewari
Dharmsala Satya Narayan, Rewari	120	Railway Road, Rewari
Dharmsala Arjun Singh-Kirpa Ram, Rewari	50	Nai Sabzi Mandi, Rewari

1	2	3
Dharmsala Saini, Rewari	—	Bharawas Gate, Rewari
Dharmsala Kheton, Mahendragarh	100	Hatta Bazar, Mahendragarh
Dharmsala Lala Bansi Dhar Jai Narayan, Mahendragarh	60	Main Market, Mahendragarh
Dharmsala Musaddi Mal Sirohiwala, Mahendragarh	100	Sabzi Mandi, Mahendragarh
Dharmsala Jhambu Mal, Mahendragarh	15	Mohalla Masani, Mahendragarh
Dharmsala Shri Tota Ram-Ramjas Mal Johri, Mahendragarh	100	Near Railway Station, Mahendragarh
Dharmsala Triveni, Mahendragarh	100	Near Bus Stand, Mahendragarh
Dharmsala Deputywali, Mahendragarh	20	Mohalla Nathuwara, Mahendragarh

TABLE X

Achievements under Community Development Programme

Particulars	Unit	During 1973-74	Upto March 31, 1978
A. Agriculture and Allied			
1. Chemical fertilizers distributed	Ton.	7,203	29,037
2. Improved Seeds distributed	Qt.	2,098	12,954
3. Area brought under cultivation	Hect.	557	1,392
4. Key village centres started	No.	9	35
5. Pedigree animals supplied	No.	594	2,876
6. Reclamation of land	Hect.	208	658
B. Health and Sanitation			
1. Primary Health Centres	No.	6	5
2. Maternity & Child Welfare Centres	No.	20	101
C. Organisation of Sports Activities			
1. Panchayat tournament at block level	No.	8	40
2. District Panchayat Tournament at block level	No.	Nil	Nil
3. State Panchayat tournament	No.	Nil	Nil
D. Roads			
1. Pacca roads constructed	Km.	72½	152½
2. Katcha roads constructed	Km.	4	30
3. Improvement of existing katcha roads	Km.	26½	40
E. Construction of Wells and Drains under Health and Sanitation			
1. Wells constructed	No.	22	157
2. Wells renovated	No.	—	136
3. Drains constructed	Mtrs.	3,200	11,186
F. Education			
1. New Schools started	No.	58	117
2. Literacy centres started	No.	—	65
3. Adults made literate	No.	55	1,772
G. People's Organisation			
1. Community centres	No.	46	100
2. New Cooperatives	No.	51	125
3. New member enrolled in coop. societies	No.	10,176	41,564
Arts and Crafts			
1. Production-cum-training centres started	No.	10	42

TABLE

Income Expenditure

Sr. No.	Name of the Block	Income		
		1973-74	1974-75	1975-76
1.	Ateli Nangal	3,98,216	4,00,876	4,05,025
2.	Narnaul	2,21,661	7,46,508	3,75,255
3.	Nangal Chaudhry	5,89,327	6,03,524	6,19,499
4.	Mahendragarh	3,20,698	3,40,026	3,63,310
5.	Kanina	3,08,880	3,74,208	3,97,100
6.	Rewari	1,58,146	1,91,447	2,34,186
7.	Khole	67,645	71,713	78,427
8.	Jatusana	3,78,931	3,92,104	4,52,970
9.	Bawal	3,44,162	3,85,735	4,46,905
Total :		27,87,666	35,06,141	33,72,677

XI

Panchayats

(Rs.)

Income		Expenditure				
1976-77	1977-78	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
4,08,519	4,20,601	4,15,376	4,19,233	4,25,252	4,38,715	4,51,717
3,21,736	3,43,967	1,96,120	3,23,551	3,28,308	2,97,726	3,94,390
6,62,484	6,55,302	5,45,479	5,87,315	6,38,664	6,34,917	6,62,199
5,28,721	4,62,715	3,60,327	2,58,311	2,83,038	3,92,840	4,78,144
5,75,081	4,33,410	2,82,272	2,92,673	4,34,226	5,41,080	2,69,314
2,65,365	2,57,343	1,03,429	1,56,364	2,27,535	2,87,391	1,52,300
91,535	1,08,717	92,628	99,307	76,313	98,615	1,11,513
5,06,825	5,18,891	2,39,852	2,22,898	4,44,208	4,63,344	4,79,813
4,30,743	4,35,856	2,81,450	3,92,585	5,11,967	5,18,222	5,20,342
37,91,009	36,36,802	25,16,933	27,52,237	33,69,511	36,72,850	35,19,732

TABLE XII

Medical Institutions with Strength of Beds and Medical Officers

Name of the Institution	Number of Medical Officers	Number of Beds
1	2	3
(In position)		
Allopathic Institutions		
(i) Civil Hospitals/Dispensaries(Urban)		
1. Civil Hospital, Narnaul	8	100
2. Civil Hospital, Rewari	3	50
3. Civil Hospital Mahendragarh	2	25
4. Railway Hospital, Rewari	3	20
5. T.B. Clinic, Narnaul	2	16
6. E.S.I. Dispensary, Rewari	1	—
7. Family Planning Clinic, Narnaul	1	—
8. Mobile Dispensary, Narnaul	1	—
(ii) Primary Health Centres		
1. Ateli	2	8
2. Bawal	3	8
3. Dochana	1	8
4. Gurawada	1	8
5. Kanina	1	8
6. Khole	2	10
7. Nangal Chaudhry	3	8
8. Sehlong	1	8
Dispensaries(Rural)		
1. Civil Dispensary, Dharuhera	1	2
2. Civil Dispensary, Meerpur	1	4
3. Civil Dispensary, Jatusana	1	4
4. Civil Dispensary, Dahina	1	4
5. Rural Dispensary, Sarohibhali	1	4
6. Rural Dispensary, Budhwal	1	6
7. Rural Dispensary, Bayal	1	4
8. Rural Dispensary, Balaha Kalan	1	4

1	2	3
9. Rural Dispensary, Antri Biharipur	1	4
10. Rural Dispensary, Hudina-Rampura	1	4
11. Rural Dispensary, Seehma	1	—
12. Rural Dispensary, Bhojawas	1	2
13. Rural Dispensary, Basduda	1	4
14. Rural Dispensary, Tankri	1	4
15. Rural Dispensary, Fatehpuri	1	4
Ayurvedic Dispensaries		
1. Pali	—	—
2. Nangali Mundi	—	—
3. Bikaner	—	—
4. Raliawas	—	—
5. Nandrampur	—	—
6. Banipur	—	—
7. Akoli	—	—
8. Mosnota	—	—
9. Dokhera	—	—
10. Khatoli Jat	—	—
11. Jakhni	—	—
12. Nawaznagar	—	—
13. Salarpur	—	—
14. Kheri-Kanti	—	—
15. Bassai	—	—
16. Nimbi	—	—
17. Palri	—	—
18. Bhagot	—	—
19. Nangal Sirohi	—	—
20. Ghataser	—	—
21. Kheri-Talwana	—	—
22. Saharanwas	—	—
23. Musepur	—	—
Unani Dispensaries		
24. Dharan	—	—
25. Kundal (Kund)	—	—

TABLE XIII

Monuments and better known places of worship or tourist interest in the rural areas.

Village	Monument, Place of worship or Tourist Interest	Age	Remarks
I	II	III	IV
Mahendragarh tahsil			
Akbarpur Nangal	A mound of earth called Atta locally	Very old	—
Narnaul tahsil			
Tajpur	An old tank known as Baori	Very old	—
Rambas	An old Hindu temple	225 years	—
Prithipura	Shrine of Ram Sewak	120 years	—
Isalampur	An old fort said to have been constructed by Marhattas	425 years	—
Dokhera	A raised platform associated with the memory of Pir	425 years	Fair is held annually.
Rewari tahsil (including) Bawal			
Inchhapuri	Temple of Shiva	175 Years	Fair is held annually.
Tankri	Temple of Durga	75 Years	Fair is held annually.
Rajgarh	Temple of Durga	75 Years	Fair is held annually.
Khetiawas	(i) Mata ka Math	175 Years	—
	(ii) Samadh of Baba Sunder Dass and Grib Dass	165 Years	—
Kamalpur	Maqbra	105 Years	Fair is held annually.
Lohana	Temple of Baba Ganga Dass	100 Years	—
Siha	Temple and tank of Baba Ram Sarup Dass	125 Years	—
Khaleta	Temple	105 Years	—
Saharanwas	Six Samadhies	Very Old	—
Jadra	Temple	Very Old	—
Rajpura	Temple	125 Years	—
Noorgarh	Ruins of an old fort	Very old	—

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GLOSSARY

- Adalat*-Court
- Adna Malik*-Inferior land owner
- Ala Malik*-Superior Land owner
- Angan*-Open space inside the house
- Ashram*-Place where sadhu or fakir resides
- Atta*-Flour
- Ayurvedic*-Hindu medical treatment
- Bal Mela*-Children fair
- Balwadi*-Creche
- Baraat*-Wedding guests from the boys side
- Baradari*-Hall where court is held
- Barothi*-Threshold ceremony
- Bazar*-Market
- Biswadari*-Land cultivated by land owner
- Bukhari*-Place for storing grain
- Chabuk**-A whip
- Chhands*-Thatched roofs *Khira*, *Halwa*-Sweat dish
- Chhari*-Fly flap
- Chopal*-Building in village used by all for stay by marriage parties or entertainment
- Dastur*-Custom
- Deroos*-Small drums
- Dhabas*-Cheap eating places
- Dhal Bachh*-Total demand from each land-owner
- Dhobis*-Washermen
- Dhoti*-Long piece of cloth worn by men
- Dungle*-Wrestling match
- Fakir*-Religious mendicant
- Gavayia (Bhajni)*-Village singer
- Ghurchari*-Customary riding of bridegroom
- Gobar*-Cow-dung
- Gosadan*-Place to keep unwanted cattle
- Gur*-Jaggery
- Hakim*-Muslim doctor
- Halwai*-One who makes Sweetmeat
- Havelis*-Large stone-built houses in village
- Ijlas-i-Khas*-High-Court
- Iqtas*-Division of a province
- Jagirdari*-Land cultivated by owner through tenants.
- Jai Mala*-Garland
- Jama*-Revenue demand
- Johar*-Village pond
- Julaha*-Weaver
- Kanyadan*-Formal bride-giving
- Khat*-Bedstead
- Khols or Tibbas*-Small hillocks
- Khusa*-Shoe
- Kothas*-inner rooms
- Kunba*-A family

- Kurti-Shirt*
- Kuthlas*-Receptacles for storing grain
- Makhtabs*-Muslim Schools
- Mandi*-Wholesale market
- Mochi*-Cobbler
- Moorhas*-Chairs made of reeds
- Mundan*-Ceremony when babies hair is shaved from the head.
- Murkis*-Small ear rings
- Orhna*-Garment for female to cover the face or head
- Pagari*-Turban
- Pana or patti*-Group of *tholas*
- Pandit*-Priest (professional Brahman)
- Parganas or Mahals*-Lowest administrative division
- Pathshala*-Hindu School
- Phirni*-Common land near the village
- Pida*-Stool
- Poli*-Sitting room
- Purda*-Custom of face-covering by women in the company of elderly persons
- Pyjama*-Night suit
- Razai*-Quilt
- Rehri*-wheel Cart to carry vegetables for sale
- Sagai*-Betrothal
- Sahukars*-Moneylenders
- Sehra*-Bridal chaplet
- Sowar*-Cavalry soldier
- Subah*-Province
- Taki*-A small window
- Tapasya*-Devoted prayer
- Teel*-Full set of women's cloths
- Teh Bazari*-Fee collected by Municipal Committee from people who sell things on roads or on cartwheels
- Thana*-Police station
- Thathera*-Brass worker
- Thola*-Group of families
- Unani*-medical treatment
- Vaid*-Hindu doctor
- Yagyopveet*-Sacred thread ceremony
- Palang*-Bedstead

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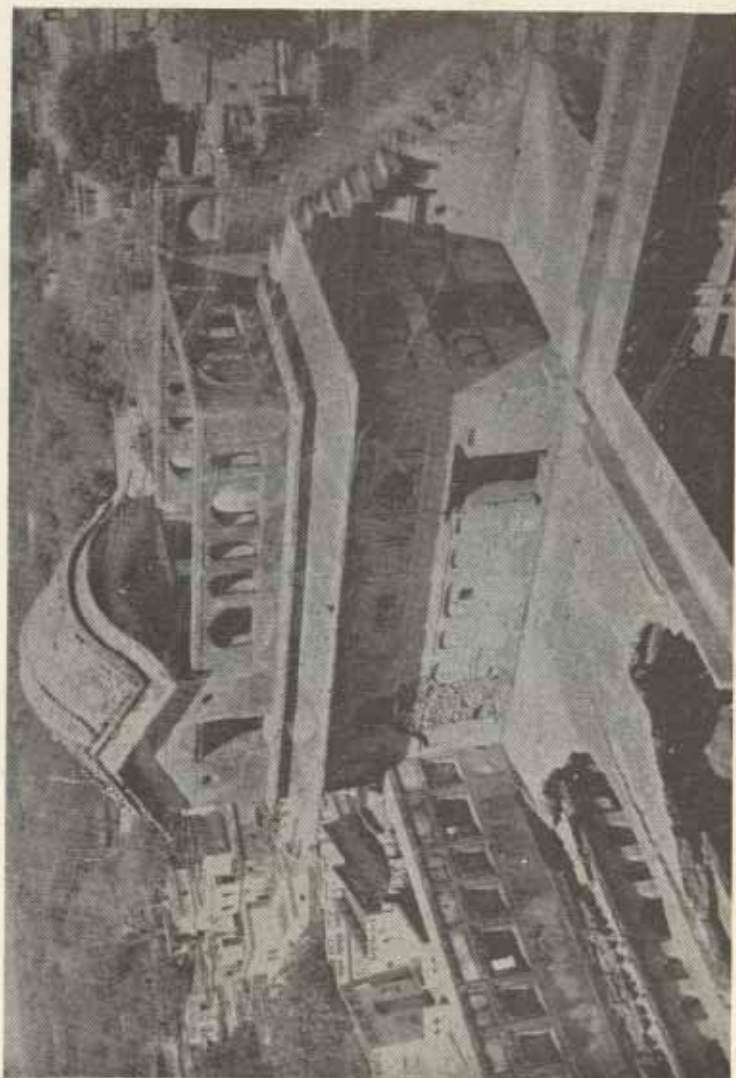
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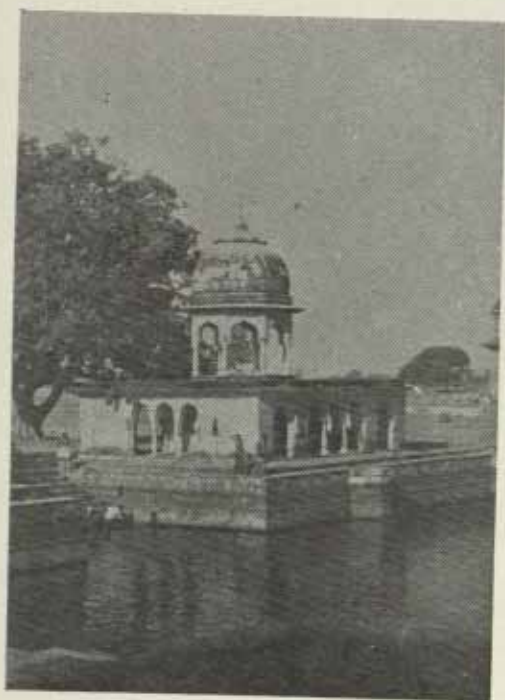
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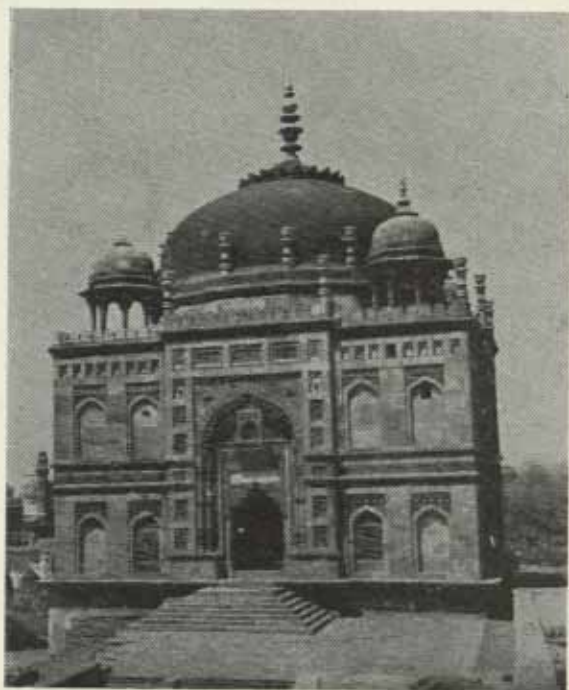




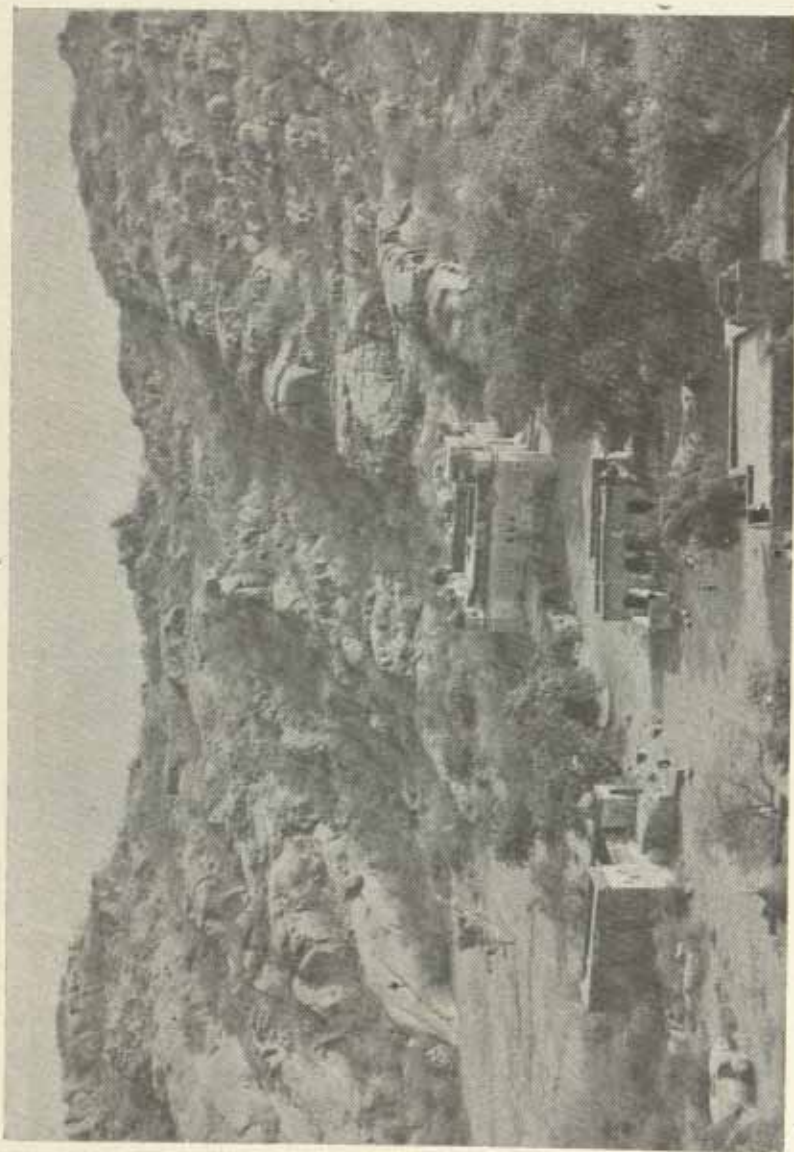
A closer view of 'Birbal Ka Chhatta'



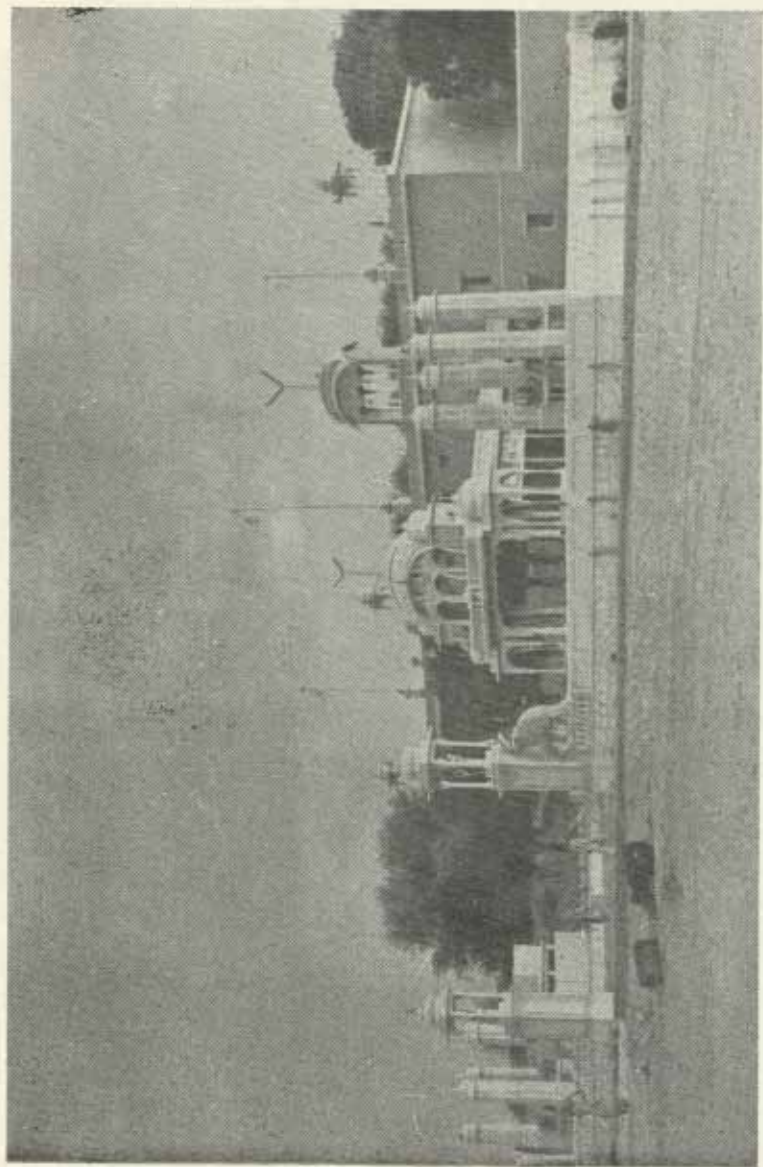
*Sri Ram Mandir at Kamania, which is
10 kilometres from Narnaul.*



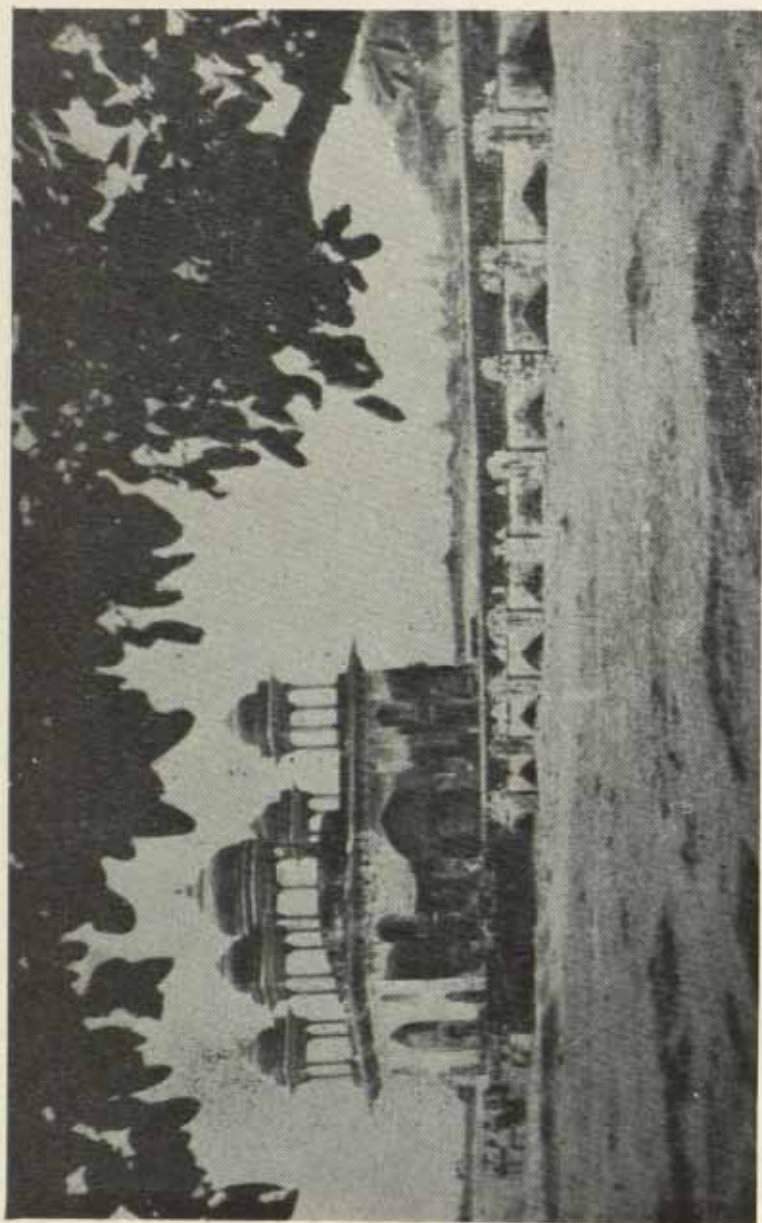
Mausoleum of Ibrahim Khan Sur. Sher Shah Suri had the tomb built at Narnaul for his grandfather, Ibrahim Khan Sur.



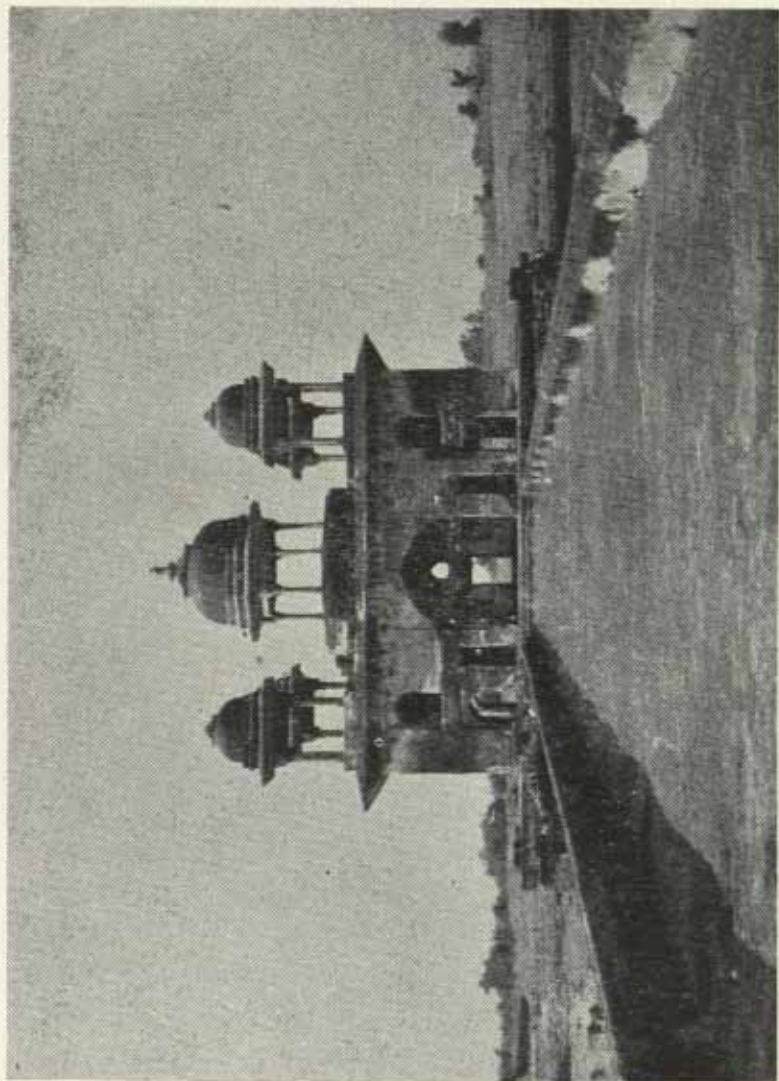
Dhosi hill, situated 8 kilometres west of Narnaul town. The Shiva temple, tank and well can be seen in the centre.



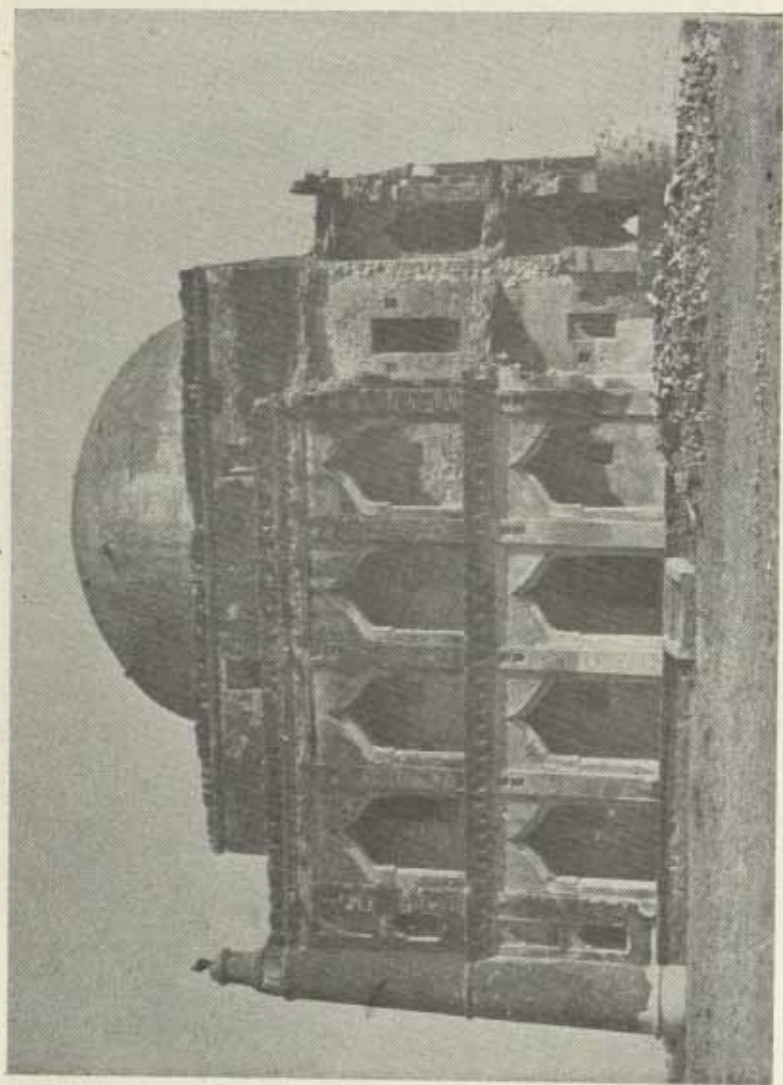
Baba Rameshwar Dass temple at Bamanwas



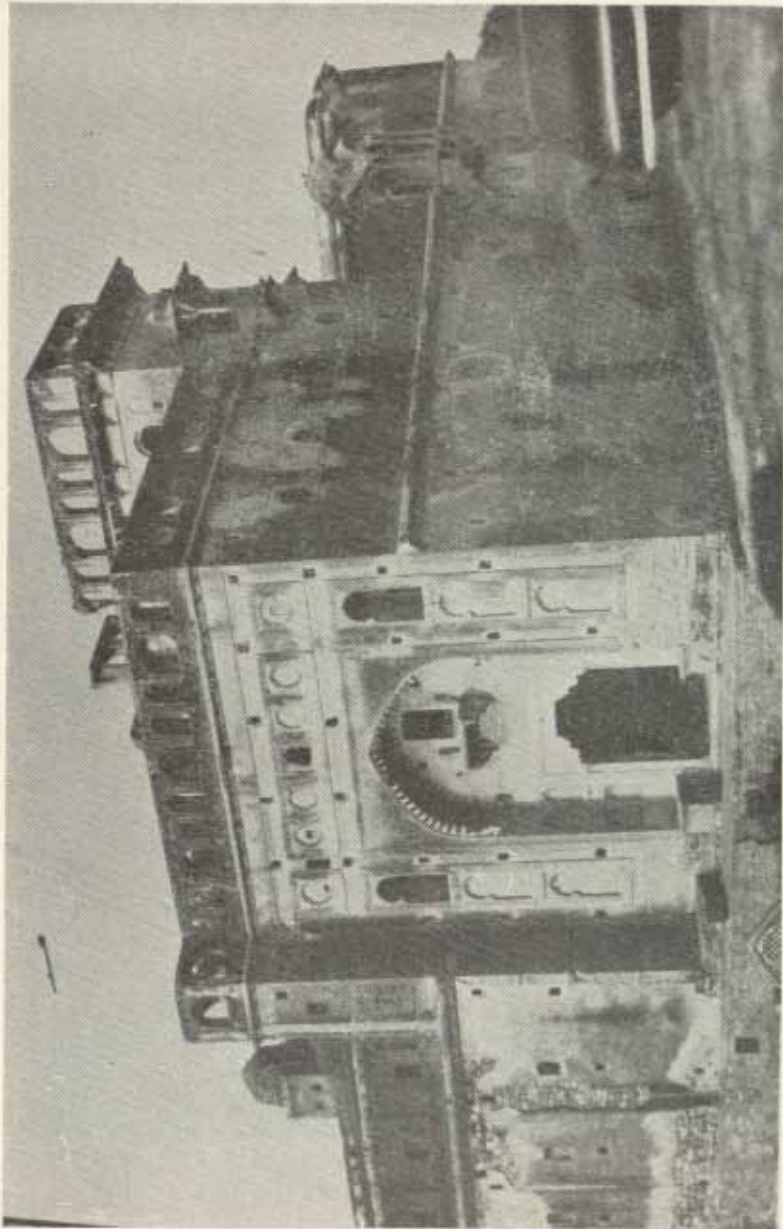
Jal Mahal at Narnaul was built in 1591 by Shah Quli Khan as a pleasure house.



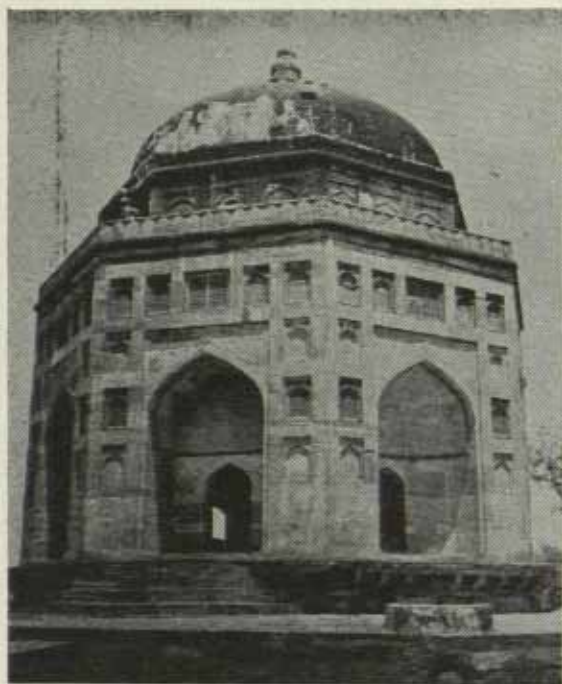
A closer view of Jal Mahal approached through the causeway



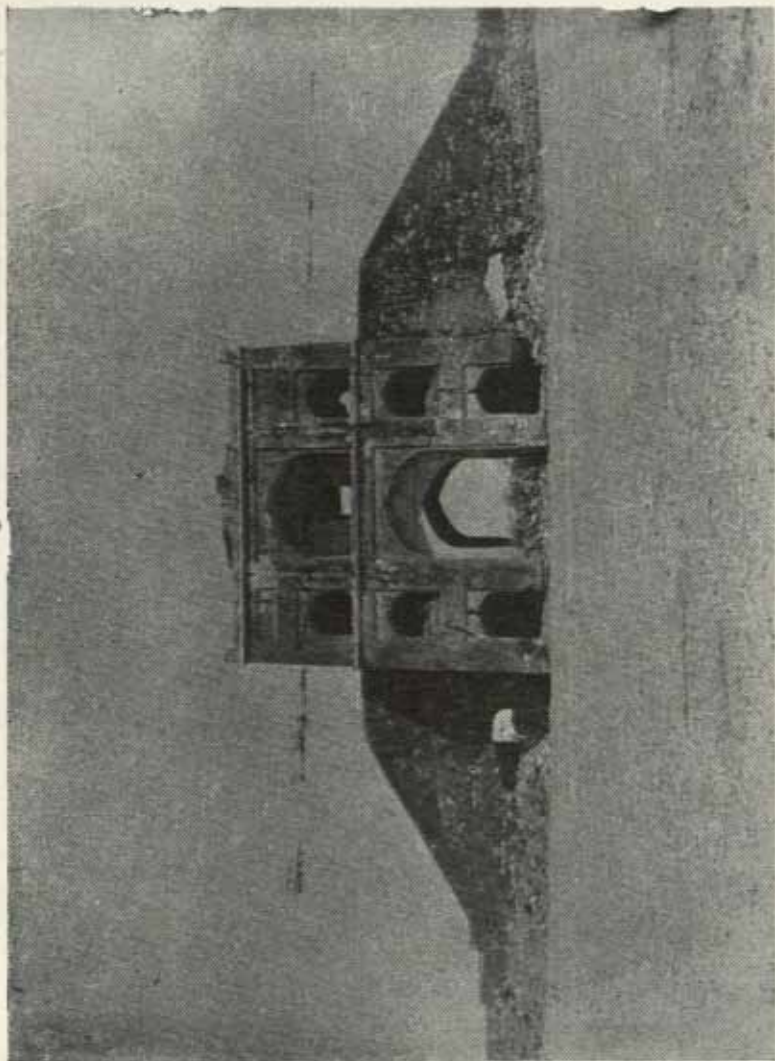
Chor Gumbad is at Narraul. It was built by Jamal Khan as his tomb.



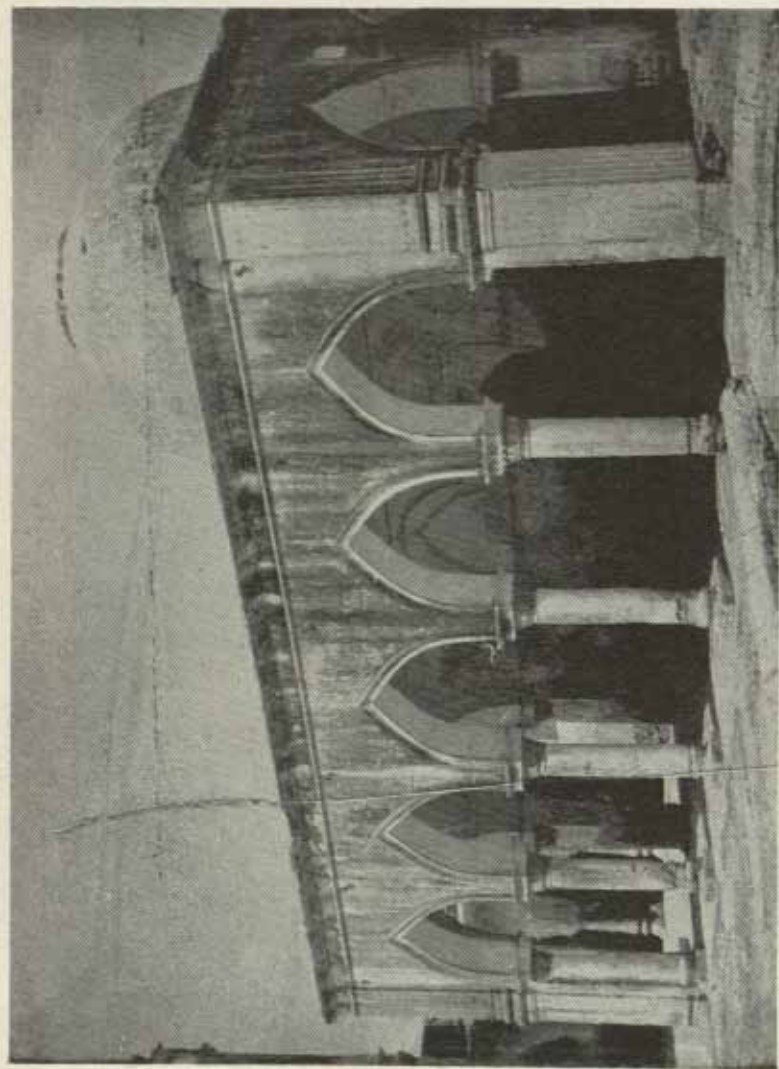
Chatta Rai Mukand Das, Narnaul, was built by Rai Mukand Das, the Dewan of Narnaul during reign of Shah Jahan. Birbal is believed to have visited the town and hence the chatta is also called Birbal Ka Chatta.



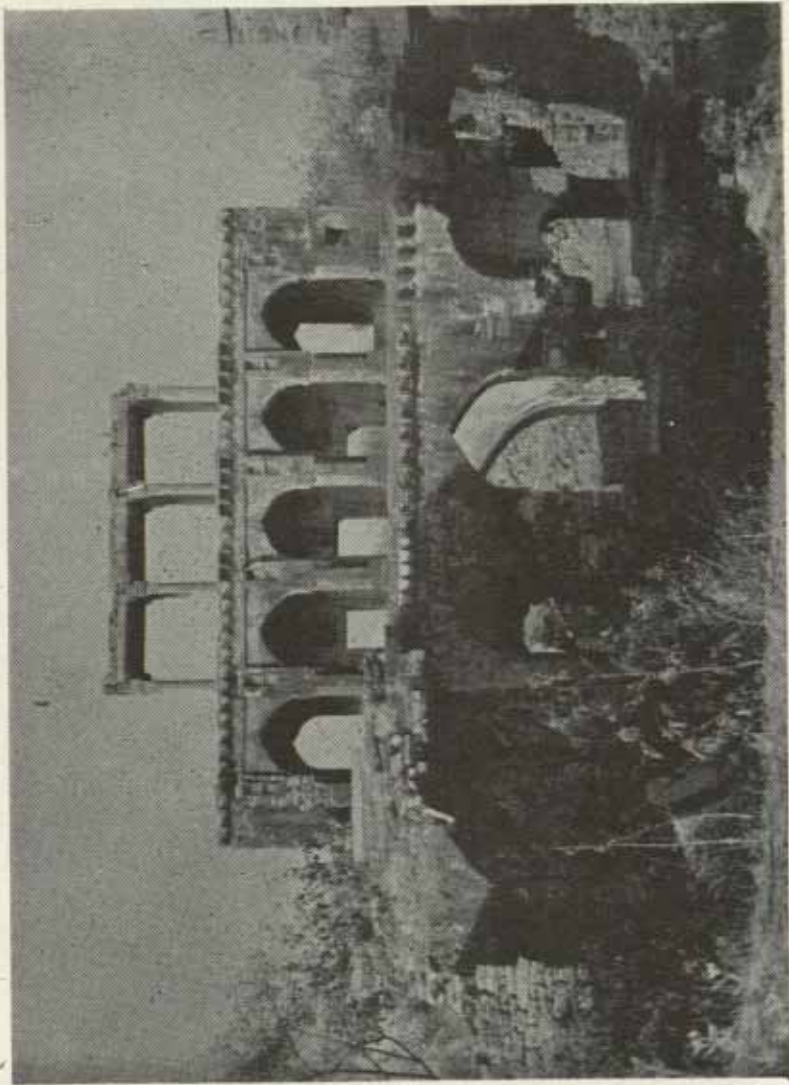
Tomb of Shah Quli Khan is at Narnaul. It was built by Shah Quli Khan, a trusted noble of Akbar and Governor of Punjab.



Tripolia Gate, Narnaul was built in 1589 by Shah Quli Khan, as the main entrance to his garden.



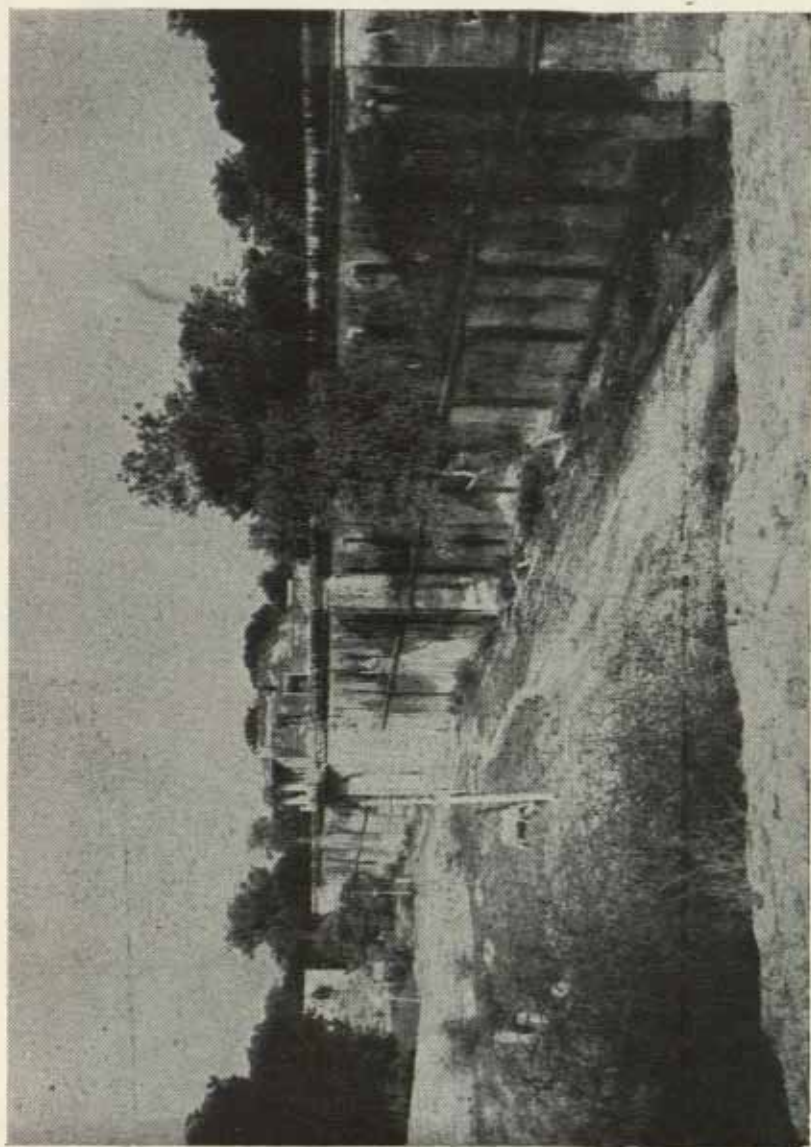
Tomb of Pir Turkman is situated in the heart of the town of Narnaul.



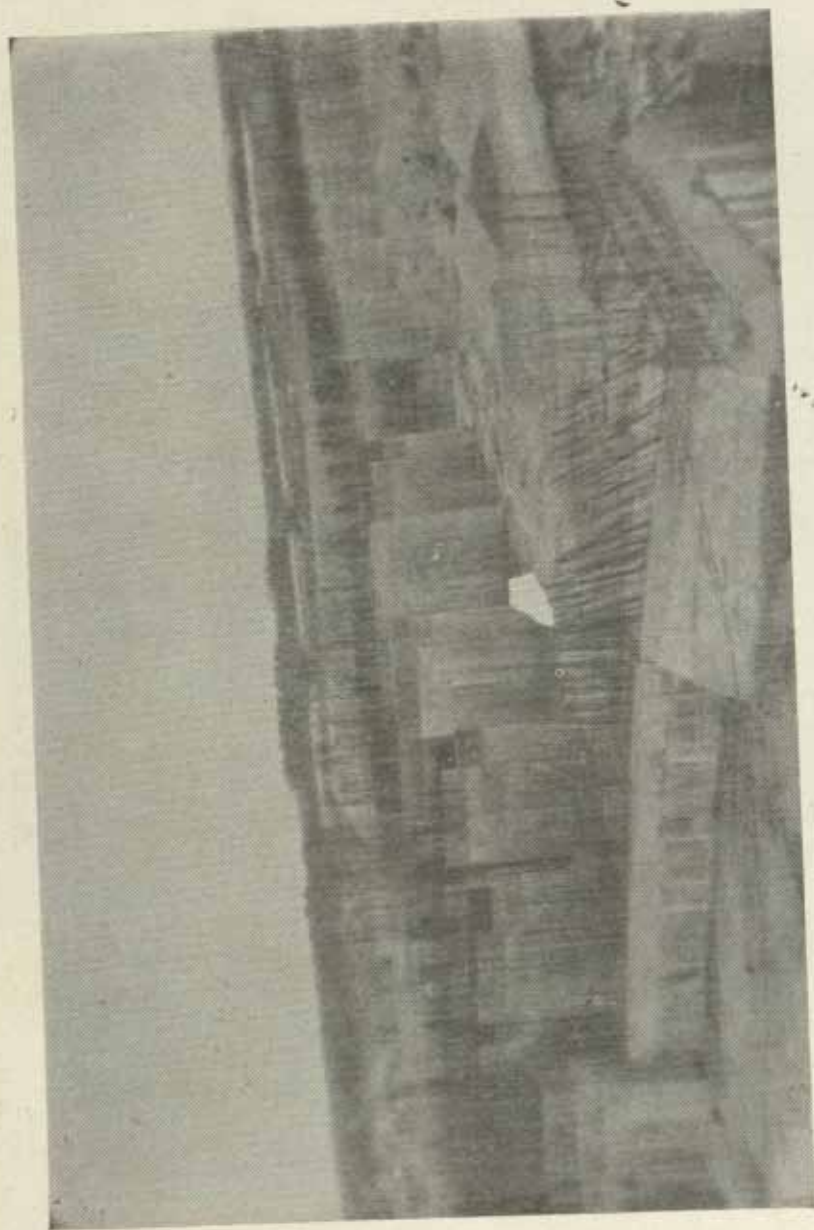
Takhat Wali Baoli, Narnaul



Ghanteshwar Mahadev Temple which is situated in the heart of the bazar of Rewari town.



Fort at Mahendragarh (Rear view)



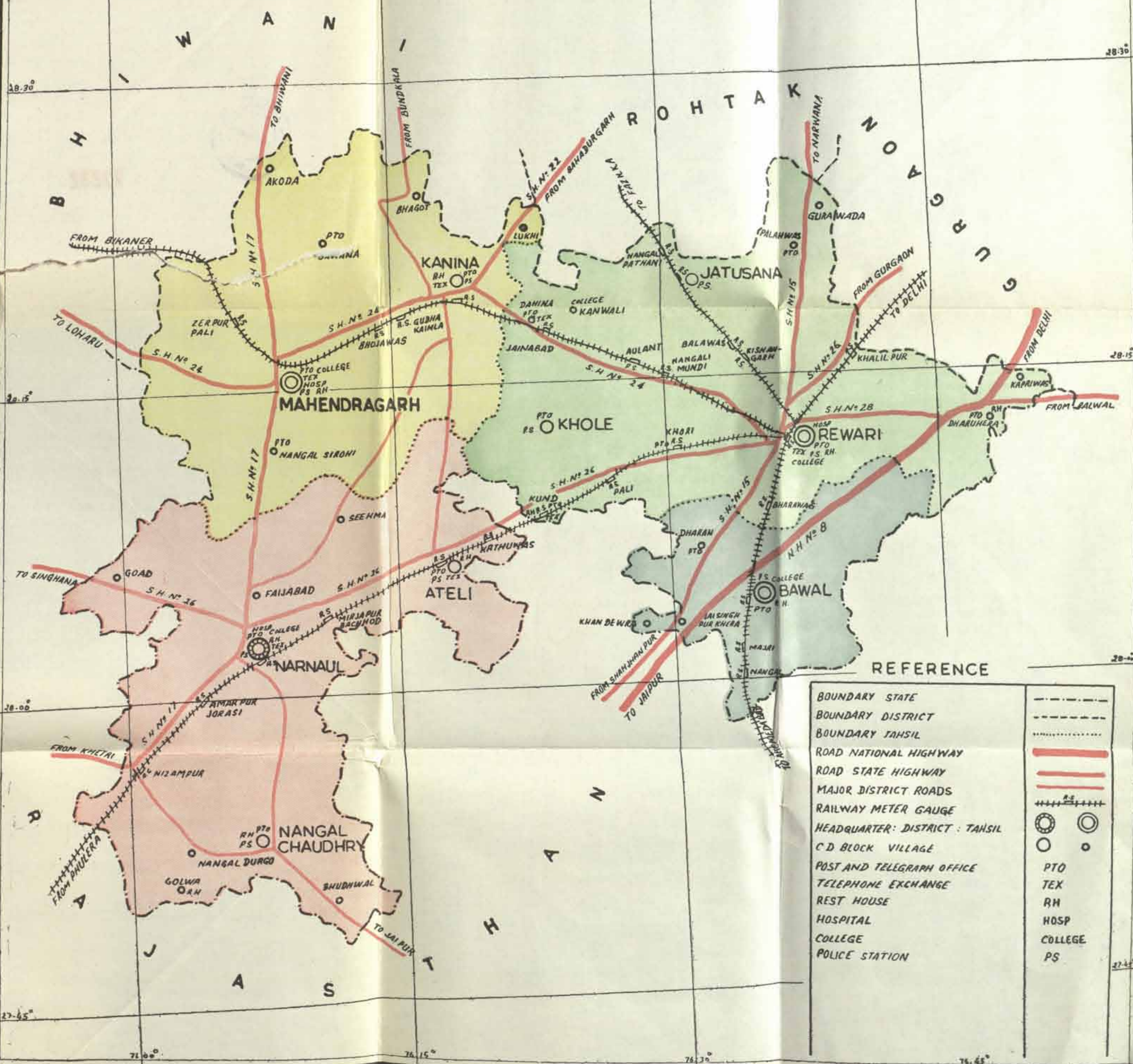
Masani Barrage near Rewari



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DISTRICT MAHENDRAGARH GENERAL MAP MARCH 1978

Scale 1 : 250,000 Kilometre



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HOSPITAL	○
COLLEGE	○
POLICE STATION	○

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